■ Miami – Masterplan on fire
■ Uptown – Battle front in the real estate war

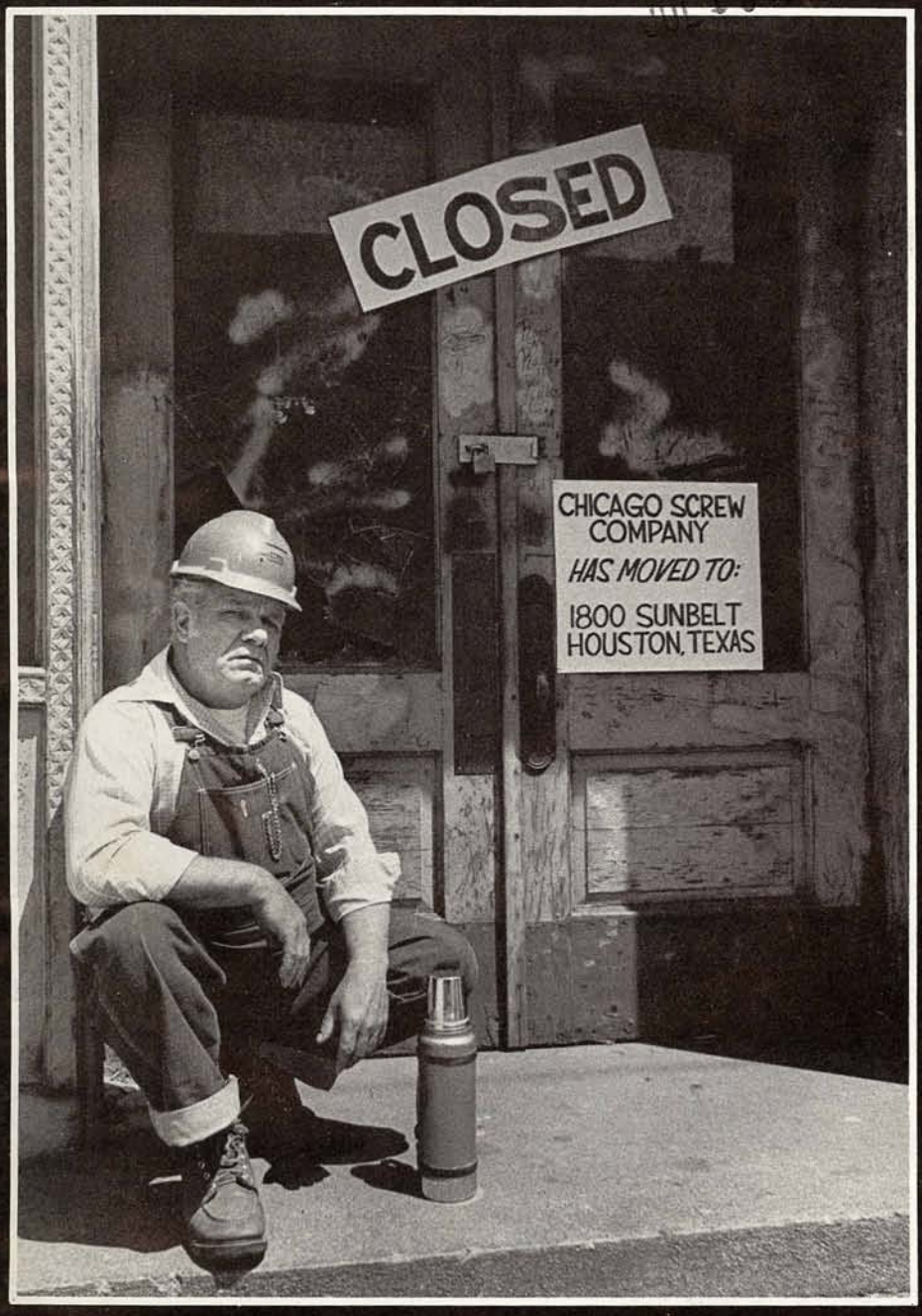
KEEP STRONG

July, 1980

$1.00

The hidden facts behind soaring unemployment in Chicago

Vanishing Jobs Make Angry Workers



For Freedom

A dedication to

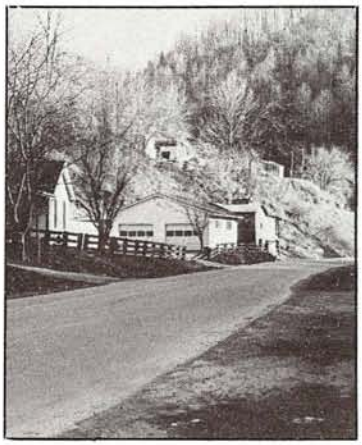
Brother Bob Hall

1952 – 1980

From those who will go forward

THIS MONTH IN

8 Vanishing Jobs— Where are the ten hardest hit neighborhoods? How many jobs left between '76 and '77?



22 Beauty, Kentucky— The coal companies run the county which wants to remove the town. these people have a fight on their hands.

31 Education— Even before the summer starts, parents in two communities are organizing a structure for the fall.

39 Miami— Three-quarters of a million poor people are up against it. Last May's riots may be only the beginning.

50 Criminal Justice— Ramsay takes the system apart, so we can look at its pieces.

53 Soweto— On the fourth anniversary of the massacre of 600 children, the people demonstrated and the government opened fire.

KEEP STRONG...

CONTENTS

FROM OUR READERS — *Letters* 2

EDITORIAL — *"30 Seconds"...30 seconds is all it takes to lose a job. Why the city won't stop the jobs from leaving* 3

FOR FREEDOM — *A dedication to Brother Bob Hall (1952-1980) who lived and died on the streets of Uptown.* 5

EMPLOYMENT — *"Vanishing Jobs Make Angry Workers"...a five part series on Chicago's changing economy and the masterplan behind it* 8

DISPLACEMENT — *"The Town That Refuses To Be Moved"...Beauty, Kentucky where 100 familes fight the giant coal companies "Uptown — The Real Estate War Continues"* 22

EDUCATION — *An early look at "The Board of Education and the Cuts", by George Schmidt.* 31

Parents in Uptown and North Lakeview are beginning to organize their power to regain control of the schools. 33

COMMUNITY FOCUS — *"Miami-The Global Gateway and the Iron Heel"* 39

CABLA REPORT — *Congress, with big pressure from big business, is getting ready to kill the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.* 46

CITY SCOPE — *Shorts from around the city* 48

CRIMINAL JUSTICE — *"The Judicial Beast"...Part II, Ramsay continues his analysis; this time with more specifics* 50

INTERCOMMUNAL — *"Johannesburg, South Africa"...Once again the people stood up and the government unloaded its guns "Norrebo Battles for its Playground"* 54

YOUR POCKET LEGAL ADVISOR — *Only "Persistence Wins Unemployment Benefits"* 59

SPORTS — *"Boxing Rhythms by Johnny Lira"...The basics of training and conditioning* 60

ENTERTAINMENT — *A new film brings to life the legend of Jesse James in "Long Riders"* 62

Cover Photo by Eric Futran

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Editor – Marc Zalkin.

From The Editor

Dear Friends,

We traveled to Miami at the end of May and were surprised to find the White people's anger directed at the government. For sure there is racism and racial antagonism. But so many people, Black, White and Cuban are being swept to the side by the Miami masterplan, there is no way a person can blame their problems on anything but the government. (p. 39)

Our feature on vanishing jobs (p. 8) provides some extraordinary new facts. The interviews with working people, employed and unemployed, from around the city point the finger at a city government controlled by the corporations. The series ends with coverage of the successful struggle in Westtown to force R.R. Donnelley to turn over some jobs to the community. There's also a follow-up to the Elgin Watch story from two months ago. (p. 19)

The education articles (p. 33), starting with an early analysis of the new school board and new budget by George Schmidt, explore the activities of parents in two northside communities. They are about organizing a force from the grass roots that can put the schools in the hands of the people.

Seventeen and a half million South Africans wake up every day in a country where they can't leave their block without a pass. When they try to resist the tiny, U.S.-supported minority, they are met with merciless violence and bloodshed. Soon the human wave will hit the shore. The minority government will be destroyed, its supporters driven from the country. (p. 54)□

From Our Readers...

Chicago Area Black Lung Association Responds To Tribune Article

We wish to comment upon the article by Ronald Kotulak, Science Editor of the Chicago Tribune, entitled "Cigarettes hit as top miner risk"—(June 16, 1980). The article is projected as a "big story" as though it represented an important scientific breakthrough which is alerting "the taxpayer" to the "fact" that undeserving coal miners have been compensated too much.

Our immediate response is:

1. The article is reporting absolutely nothing that is new. A study by one Dr. Keith Morgan is cited in the "current" journal of the American Medical Association (AMA). In fact, the study is several years old and is itself a re-hash of Dr. Morgan's longtime crusade against compensation of black lung victims.

2. Dr. Morgan's methods are a self-serving attempt to justify his point of view. This can best be discussed in detail at a later date. The years of careful, honest work by physicians who struggled with the undeniable reality of coal workers' respiratory disease, in the face of the coal industry's well financed effort to deny that black lung exists at all, were completely ignored by the Tribune's Science Editor.

3. As to the "cost to the taxpayer" of the 1977-78 amendments to the Federal Black Lung program—benefits are now paid either out of a trust fund paid into by the coal industry (because of the backlog of long neglected older miners, the government will have to *loan* money to the trust fund) or by the individual coal operator. The "cost to the taxpayer" of self-serving "consultants" and "bureaucratic procedures" that find ways to deny and discourage black lung victims should be investigated. Of those who do receive benefits, the vast majority have to fight and wait for years.

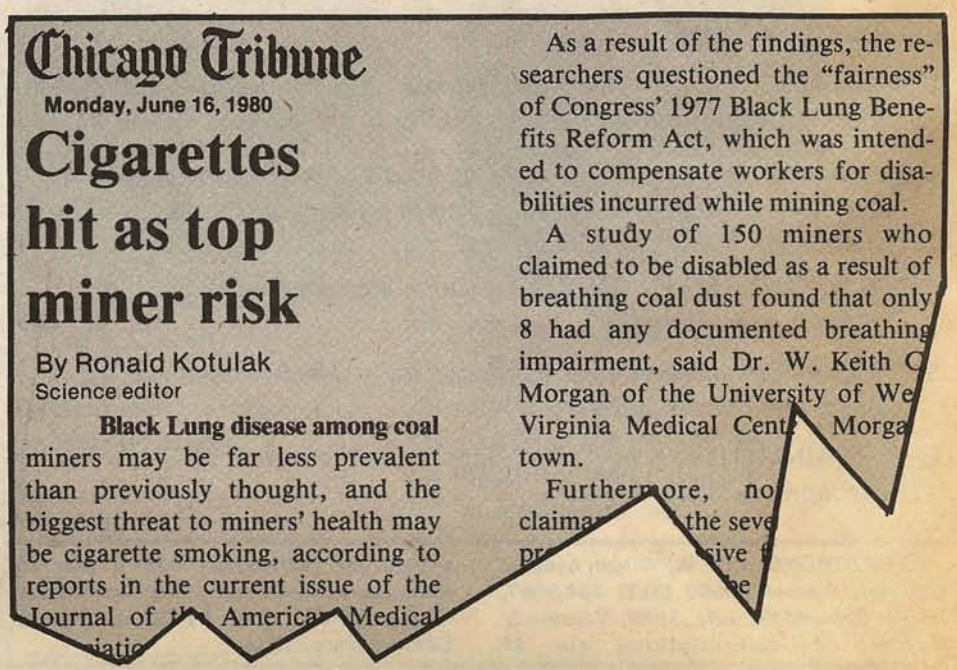
4. Although Dr. Morgan's warmed-over stale soup is hardly worthy of a front page story, what *is* interesting is the timing. The Department of Labor (DOL) is under more pressure to approve less black lung claims and this is leading to terrible injustices. Furthermore, we are being told by big business that "we" cannot afford the "frill" of compensation and preventative measures to make workplaces in general safe. Meanwhile, deadly occupational hazards are multiplying in this country as are well financed efforts to cover them up. The example set by thousands of miners and widows who fought to make the tragedy of black lung something that has to be dealt with, is a threat to the priorities of the oil and coal industries.

So it is time for good old Dr. Morgan (who stated publicly that the Union of South Africa is his model for dealing with occupational health!) to be dredged out of obscurity and made credible.

The participation of the Science Editor of the Tribune in this farce is unfortunate.

5. The Chicago Area Black Lung Association (CABLA), representing the many ex-miners who have suffered from black lung and from coverup and neglect, is sure that poor, working and progressive people in Chicago will not be fooled by the Tribune's little front page ploy.

Sincerely,
Richard Rocono, Chairman
Sam Willie Collins, Vice-Chairman
Paul Siegel, Secretary
Beulah Peyatt, Treasurer
James Largo, Outreach Chairman
UAW Local 179
CHICAGO AREA BLACK LUNG ASSOCIATION



Chicago Tribune
Monday, June 16, 1980

Cigarettes hit as top miner risk

By Ronald Kotulak
Science editor

Black Lung disease among coal miners may be far less prevalent than previously thought, and the biggest threat to miners' health may be cigarette smoking, according to reports in the current issue of the Journal of the American Medical

As a result of the findings, the researchers questioned the "fairness" of Congress' 1977 Black Lung Benefits Reform Act, which was intended to compensate workers for disabilities incurred while mining coal.

A study of 150 miners who claimed to be disabled as a result of breathing coal dust found that only 8 had any documented breathing impairment, said Dr. W. Keith C Morgan of the University of We Virginia Medical Cent Morga town.

Furthermore, no claima the seve pr sive f e

EDITORIAL

30 Seconds...

It doesn't take long to lose a job. You can put twenty years in a place but it only takes thirty seconds to find out you're gone. For some it comes in a form letter, or a time card missing from its slot, a word from the foreman or a padlocked door on a Monday morning.

It doesn't take more than twenty or thirty seconds to lose a job. The men who make most of these decisions, to close Wisconsin Steel or Pullman Car or move Bell and Howell or Elgin Watch, the decisions that put and keep hundreds of thousands of Chicagoans on the street, sit atop huge empires. The empires are spread across the world and many of them are headquartered in Chicago.

Just two big banks and a dozen corporations are in command of Chicago. They control the flow of money into the city, and the city's ability to borrow money. Every day, they shape the policies for the future of Chicago. And the future starts tomorrow for us.

It only takes them thirty seconds to put you out and thirty more to let you know you're gone.

Organized by Mayor Daley in 1975, the Economic Development Commission (EDC) is made up predominately of the men who command Chicago. Half a billion dollars a year in taxpayers' money is put in the hands of this small group. They direct the use of the money to ensure the economic growth of the city for "the good of all Chicagoans." An ordinary person would think that means jobs. Keeping jobs here and bringing in new jobs, more jobs. But the Economic Development Commission has just one job to offer, the job they're doing on us.

65,000 jobs were removed from Chicago between 1975 and 1980. 20,000 may leave this year alone.

From Tom Ayers of Commonwealth Edison, to Dean Swift of Sears, Roebuck and Company, the members have stayed on top of their controlling interest in the EDC. Perkins, Pritzker, Rubloff, the list goes on as the men use their controlling interest to guarantee that Chicago will run on a white collar, nonunion, $4.50 an hour economy.

They are taking our livelihood and sucking the life from our communities. And they do it in thirty seconds. □

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on the

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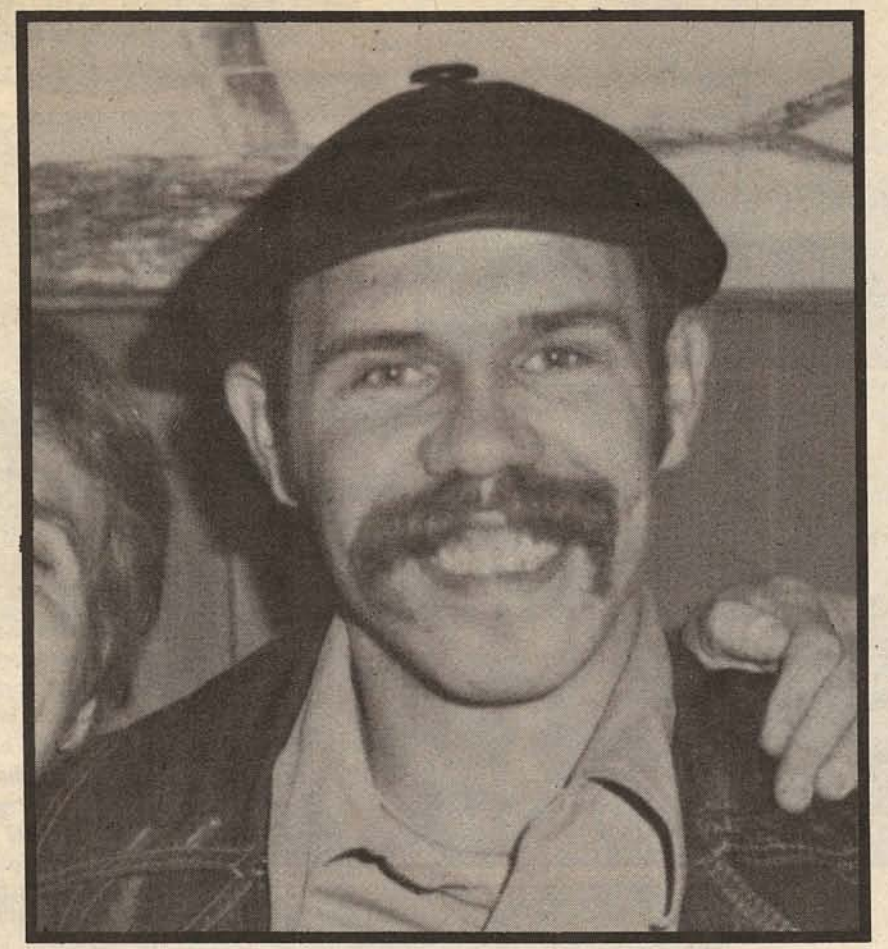
For Freedom



Bob Hall

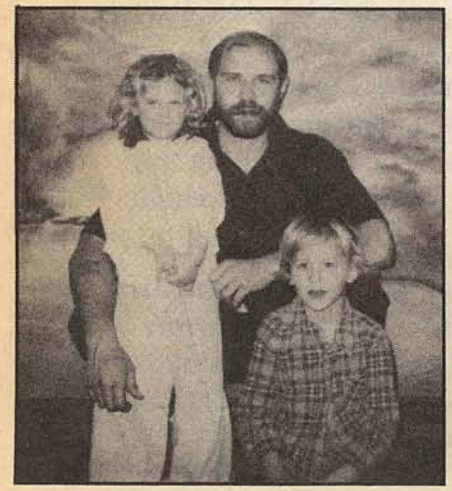
1952 – 1980

A strong, solid brother died last month. It was an honor to have worked and learned with this man, but it just isn't saying enough about his contribution. So we trust that those who were close can recognize these limits, and see deeper. It's within this new determination that we will realize a collective vision for unity. In this strength "Bobby Lives." In this spirit you might know him better.

The wake was "on the avenue" just as he would have it; his burial "back home" with his folks. Hundreds came to pay their respects. Many more couldn't come. Some wrote, some called, some sang. All of us cried. There are really no words to say what was shared or to express our loss. These are small parts of the expressions of love and respect but they can speak for all of us – a part of the past and a sign for the future....

He came from Mountain people, the youngest of seven. Cancer took his mother before he was four. Black lung claimed his daddy not two years later. The mountain orphanage he described as a place you learned to fight daily if you wanted to eat. The few summers with "foster folks" talked of often.

The passage to manhood—"bonds" made, principles forged while living on streets that weren't giving. The love for children, the dream for them to be strong, not to have to endure the same pain and rage—for freedom.



Bob Hall lived for freedom.

"Bobby Hall stands out as a special brother. Few men have faced the hardship and continually intense struggle that he did. Few men have shown the intense love and loyalty to his people or have known the real meaning of friendship and commitment to resist attacks on one's self-respect and humanity. Bobby Hall was my best friend. A part of me died with him, but he left with me a part of him. I know that I now carry a responsibility to see that our goals are reached, to see to it that a better life is created for our people. It will be done."

"What I respected in Bob was that he wouldn't take any shit from anyone unless he was wrong. If everyone was rich, I don't think anyone would care about anyone else. The struggle's what pulls us together. When you're going through hell—when you've got the worst—and you've got a friend, that's the tightest friend you've got. When you have someone like Bobby it's easier to get through the hard times."

"Why? This is the question that keeps rolling around in my mind. Why are we all dying and going to jail? We've got to approach this whole thing a different way. I refuse to let Bobby's death go in vain! There must be a way we can use this to help someone or something. I feel I owe this to him.

"All he ever wanted was good for his brothers, and he always gave his best. If you know his people's address, send it so I can write them, let them know he was loved and cared for. I think they should know of his deep love for his brothers."

"I've walked the streets of Uptown
Struggling to survive
Watched mothers lose their children
Wiped tears from their eyes.

But I also see the smile of little children,
The shake of a brother's hand
And looking at all the sisters' babies
I see the future of this land.
They will rebuild."

"He had an enormous love for others and he spent his life for them—struggling daily for survival. He pursued a dream to break the chains of this endless struggle to exist. Rise Up—Dedicate Yourself—Keep Strong. This is how Bobby's dream can come true. The battle will be long and the sacrifices great, but it's a battle which must be fought and lived, daily, with determination, dedication and perseverance!"

"Bobby,
If you've died, why do we still
feel you beside us?
How is it, we still hear your voice,
see your face, and look for you—in Uptown?

If you've died and you're still with us
have we died too?

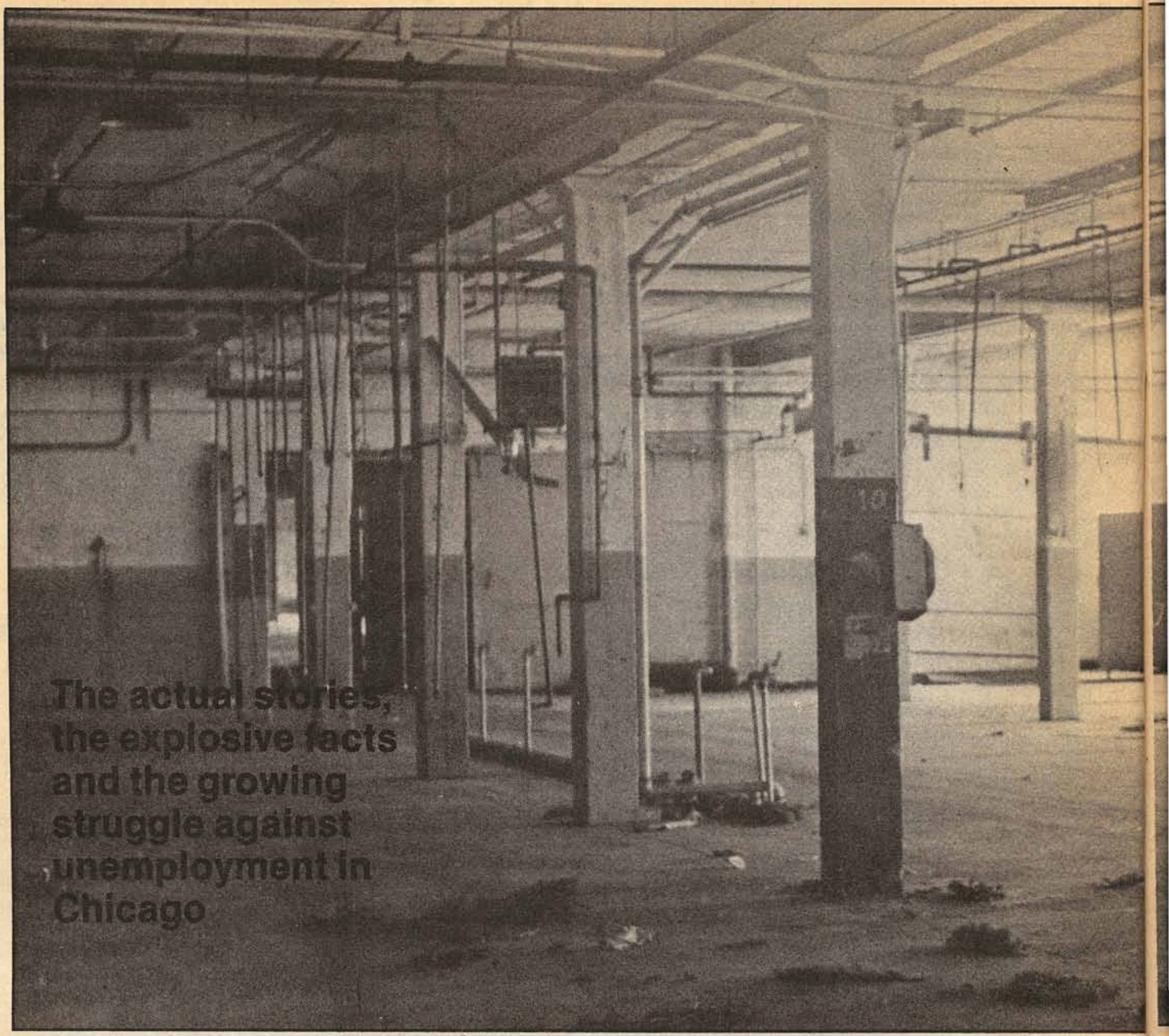
I think not brother Bobby
I think you are still alive—in Uptown.

For as long as we live,
you'll live Bobby
And as long as we fight,
you'll fight.
Our life is yours Bobby,
and you'll always live—in Uptown."

"He stood by his convictions wholeheartedly. He had a tattoo on his chest; a butterfly on red, inside of a heart. 'The heart is our strength,' he said. 'The butterfly is freedom and the red is the blood spilled for it.' Bobby Hall lived for freedom."

This dedication from the heart of those who stood with and loved Bob Hall was written by a few to express the feelings of many. Contributors:

Rich(Dog) Jack Robbie
Judy B Richie Jimmy Camacho



Vanishing Jobs Make Angry Workers

Keep Strong Feature Report

INTRODUCTION

You've heard the facts and the figures, but they are only the outline of the whole story. Inside the facts and the figures, two groups are locked in struggle.

For the next six pages spend a few minutes with the Urban Workforce. Watch closely as they describe the details of the city's drive to push them out. Listen to their anger build as 10,000 jobs leave the city every six months. Understand after listening to them that the city belongs to private business.

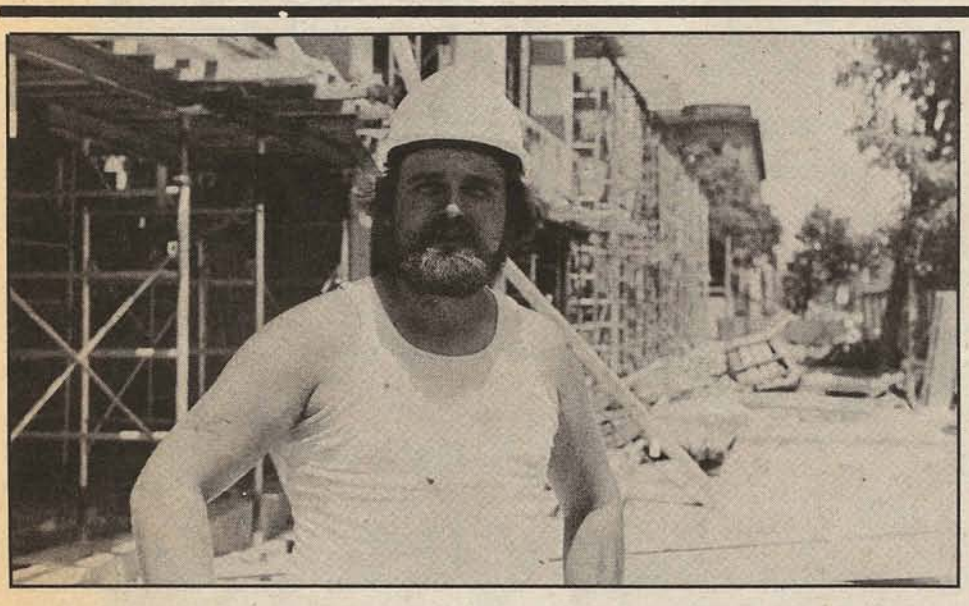
Billion dollar banks and corporations make up the second group. They have a masterplan that excludes 2/3 of the people who live in Chicago. They move the jobs out for economic reasons—cheap labor and for political reasons—there's too many of us and we stand in the middle of their plan to redevelop Chicago from the inside out.

With a budget of half a billion dollars a year and unlimited borrowing power, this group sets and organizes the policy for Chicago's economy. The Economic Development Commission might pay lip service to keeping jobs in Chicago, but the men who sit on it have determined to drive us from Chicago since the end of World War II.

On Monday, July 7 at 7:00 p.m. at the Midland Hotel, another step in the three year public trial of this group will be taken. The Employment Action Coalition will continue to lay out its indictment of this public body that only serves the corporations. To find out what they are doing—you should be there!

"I can't plan for the future because I don't know what's happening. I'm not sure what my skills would be worth on the job market. I think I could do a lot of jobs if they would just hire me."

Angry



David Boothyard

— Construction worker

"It's getting hard to find a job. In one week I went out for five jobs and all of them took applications. Everyone was not hiring and said, 'we'll call you.' It's very discouraging but jobs, they're just very hard to get right now. It's very depressing, especially if someone wanted to go back to work. There was one job that I went for, working in a

James Henry

— Laid-off plastics worker

"I noticed last September or November that it was definitely harder to get a job. Inflation was spiraling and Carter was trying to put a clamp on it. I think that the lack of oil, the policies of the Carter administration, the Federal Reserve Board, that they threw us into a recession. They said we'd go through a mild one but here it is getting to be rampant. The manufacturing companies are going to the Sun Belt, because they can find a cheap labor force and a cheaper tax base. They don't care about you. I personally feel that most employers exploit you. They really don't care about you, just what you can do for them. I'm not going to let someone exploit me for $3.10 an hour. I was making $6 to $7 an hour.

"I think they should cut down the bureaucracy to a minimal level. In Chicago you got all these political free-loaders working for votes at election time. If you could divert the funds they waste on mismanagement and bureaucracy, the city could make business attractive to manufacturers because they'd have a cheaper tax base.

"I called everywhere on the north side that was accessible to public transportation for a job, 30 or 40 plastic companies. They are not hiring and at least 80 percent are laying off now.

"They say that people are going to be coming back to the city in the next five to ten years. I think that

Workers

factory as a paper cutter, and it was ironic to me that they offered me pay that was less than unemployment. If someone has a family and they need it, they're going to have to go out there and work for pennies. Job offers that pay less than unemployment don't stimulate anyone to go out and look for employment. I'm very fortunate to get in on this site. There are so many skilled carpenters out there not working. The economy is so screwed up, no matter what skills you have, if there's not much demand for them. It's difficult to find work."

they're all going to be administrative-type people, not industry because all the industry and manufacturing is moving out. I don't know where they are going to push the people. Maybe we will have to go the suburbs.

"I think that there should be a wide-scale well organized revolution. People have got to get together even it the revolution fails. I'm not advocating total anarchy or anything like that, I'm just saying that the people should jump up and say, 'You're going to have to do something for us or we're going to take matters into our own hands.' People aren't standing up and demanding their rights in the Constitution. You have these rights but if you don't stand up for them then you don't have them."

Lorraine Woods

— Clerical Worker

"The companies should stay in the cities so our people can have jobs. The taxes on industry are too high. It's hard for a young person to find a job. It's unreal. I mean these kids can't find a job. If they do find one, it pays so little it's almost not worth it. They have to work too hard for the few dollars they get. Nowadays, even if you have a trade, that has nothing to do with it. You still can't find a job.

"These companies that are moving away from Chicago altogether, to the South and out of the country, why are they moving? They're going there because the people will work for peanuts. The big businesses move down there for cheaper labor.

"If a person's been with a company for five years or more, they should at least get a month's severance pay. It takes six weeks to collect unemployment, doesn't it? If a company up and leaves you stranded, they got to at least give you some money to pay the next month's rent.

"They ought to help you find another job. But, how many of them are going to take the time?"

Pullman

May Parnell

— Census worker

"I think the future is very bleak. All of them (large manufacturers) are moving out of the state or out to the suburbs. The suburbanites don't need jobs. Where my husband works, they're laying off people with 13 years seniority and they've cut down to one shift from three.

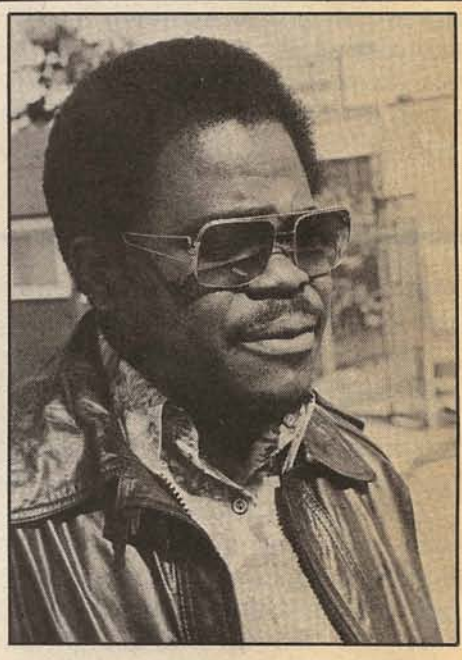
"This definitely affects other parts of our communities. Stores close up and go out of business. There's less and less security.

"Losing a job is a tremendous hardship on the entire family. You really don't have a future to plan on when it happens. People are losing their homes. That's why there are so many HUD houses up for sale. Mayor Byrne said she wants to open up the lottery (auction) to get people into homes. What about the jobs. How are you going to buy a home in the city when the jobs are in the suburbs and the price of gas is skyrocketing.

"At Stewart Warner, they booted the old union out and brought in their own. Look at the people that have lost jobs since they brought the new union in. I would say the company took advantage of the changeover in the union. At first the company wouldn't even negotiate with the new union at all. They got a big warehouse in Elgin, Illinois. They got acres of land in Tennessee, they are already operating a plant there and shipping parts here, and eventually they'll move the whole thing down there. They got much cheaper labor down there."

Ed Knaus

"I'm still working, but I have no idea how much longer I'll be here. I don't think I'll have any trouble getting another job. It's hard to say when they will close completely. They've got the system so messed up. They're supposed to be locked into the order (the contract to supply Amtrak). They can't get out of it. The way they've got things set up here, we will never finish the order. You'd have to come inside and see the procedures we go through. Like they took away the screws and we do a lot of work with screws. If we don't have screws, we can't work, so we sit. This is the most ridiculous sys-



Patrick Djondo

— Member, Save Our Jobs Committee at Pullman

"This community and other surrounding communities are just going down when this plant closes. This is a landmark here. Today, Pullman, Inc. is getting so

Standard

Several weeks ago announced plans to permanently close its South Side Chicago plant.

tem for building I have ever seen. Nothing works together here. It seems like everything is made so you don't build the cars."

Bob Filice

"It's practically impossible to get a job where I live in Palos Heights. I could go to "Steve's." It's a delicatessen that's open 24 hours a day and maybe get $3 an hour but I have four in my family.

"If the city could get taxes from these very large corporations that are paying almost no taxes right now, it would allow them to lower the taxes for some smaller organizations. Then they could start doing some business. That, I think, would be a big help to get more jobs into the city."

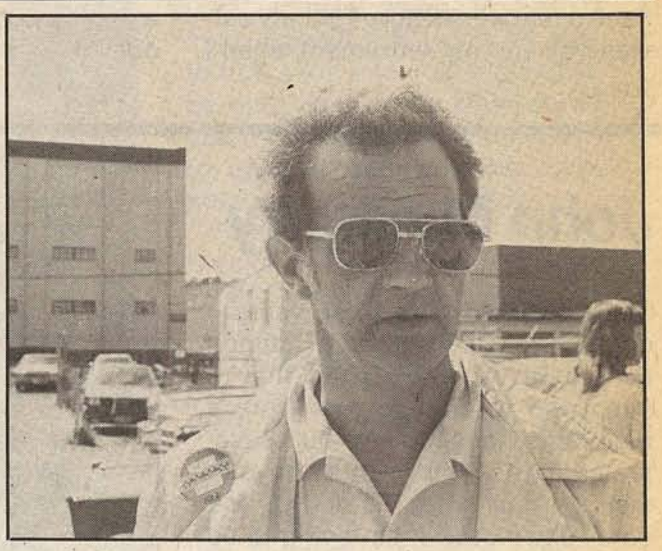
big, it has branches and investments in Australia, Russia, Indonesia. They're shipping everything overseas. They are telling us here to go to hell!

"The way the economic situation is going right now, somebody's got to do something positive. The average American feels they are at the bottom of the pit. The job market today is all goofed up and there's nothing out there.

"One thing that's so goofy about them closing this plant is that there is no other railroad car maker in the U.S., except Budd Company and that's a German outfit.

"I had the chance to talk to Clark P. Tyler, Vice-President of Amtrak and he told me that over $24 billion has been appropriated for the extension of the Amtrak programs. They need right now over 2,500 mass transit cars and nobody's around to pick up the order. So Pullman Standard is saying we're going out of business—the business is there, but there is no one out there to supply the cars."

George Scott



"I worked here a couple of years. There is no reason for closing. The market is open for rapid transit cars. Los Angeles is begging for people to make them. Budd Corporation is tied up for five years on them. It's mismanagement. Pullman is trying to get out of railroad cars and trucking. Uncle Sam has known about this for at least three years. We're losing money, about 33 percent on every car we're turning out. This gives them an out. If they had a cost-of-living clause written in their contract with Amtrak, Pullman wouldn't have to stop making railroad cars. We're buying parts from Russia, the money's going to Russia for these cars we are building right now. The federal government should step in and subsidize. Ms Byrne should step in too."

Montgomery Ward

Closing mail order operations in Chicago — more than 900 will be out by the year's end.

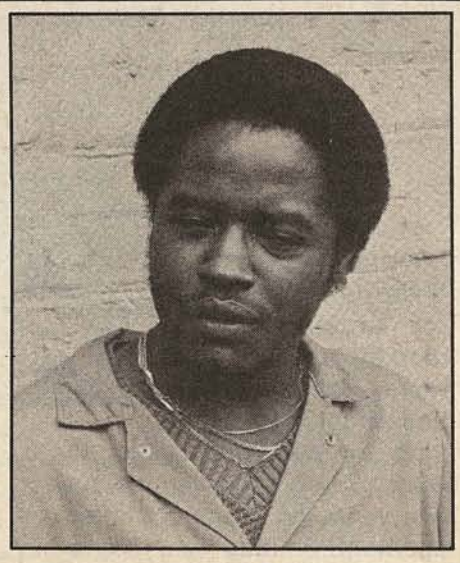
Lillie Mead

"Well I don't know exactly what's happening here, but they say they're going to close! And I've been here almost 14 years. I was laid off from here in January for four months and they called me back a few weeks ago. I got my service pay and my retirement when I left. I had to start anew with no seniority. When my unemployment runs out I don't know what I'm going to do. When I got rehired they didn't tell me anything about closing or when it would be. They just said I had a temporary job. I am making less money now when they brought me back than I was making before. I had to start back as a new person.

"Quite a few have been laid off since January, and quite a few have been called back. I can't plan for the future because I don't know what's happening. I don't know what will happen to the people being laid off. I don't think there are any jobs available, not too many, and at my age it would be hard for me to find a job.

"I'm not sure what my skills would be worth on the job market today because I stayed on just two jobs too long. I think I could do a lot of jobs, if they would just hire me. I've been working in stock, getting orders and sending out merchandise. The city should keep a lot of companies from moving out."

John Mayberry



"I've worked here three years. I don't know what's going to happen here until June 26. Then they're supposed to change over from a mail order house to a retail house, pre-order. It will take three days to pick up your order instead of one day. I don't know if I'm going to be laid off. I expect to be unemployed for a long time. It's hard to find jobs. Like this one here is moving from Chicago to Cincinnati, and a lot of jobs are gone now, like the steel mills.

"I don't think my experience here is worth much on today's job market. I'll probably try to get into another type of work; marketing, work at the airport or at a bank. The city should keep the jobs here, make jobs, make the jobs stay in the city. What are the people going to do in the city, because everybody can't jump up and go where the jobs go."

Dr. Scholl's

The Chicago factory lies in the heart of the 21 Plan area. Will be moving soon.

Jean Smith

"I've been here since February of '78. I was laid off last October and I came back in April. A lot of places are moving out of town. The crime rate is going to get higher. Too many people are coming into the country. I have friends who have gone to college. They've got the education but they can't find work. There's no jobs. The crime rate is going to go really, really high. People get hungry. I don't know what I might do myself. Maybe the companies are leaving for warmer climates because of the fuel costs, lights and gas and cheaper wages. I've worked on many different jobs at different hourly pay rates so I really don't know what my experience is worth on the labor market."

Oliver Evans

"I've been working here about 18 months. When I started, I was hired as permanent help. I needed a job at the time. Now they are leaving town. When these people get laid off they

should get some kind of job because they're good workers.

"It might be the city's fault that companies are leaving. I don't know whose fault it is. There is a reason for everybody to do what they do.

"My mind is so into the boxing game, I don't even worry about the company and what they're doing. Boxing is what I want to make my money at."

Ortez Alderson

"I've been here since about last December. When they hired me they told me it would be temporary. Different departments are phasing out at different times. The department I'm in is phasing out the end of August or September. Some people have been here 20 to 30 years. It's not so bad for me because I haven't been here that long. A lot of people can't go to Tennessee where they are moving the company.

"One thing I think is important, is that people that have been here a long time and are close to their pension, is whether they will still get that. There is some bad feelings about it moving. I kind of think it's cheap labor, that's why all the companies are moving south.

"The company said they would help people find jobs and said there would be some kind of financial aid. But I doubt if they will get jobs. What the company probably will do is give the people a little cash, say here's two months salary, or whatever, and then the people will find themselves on unemployment compensation.

"I don't know what the city could do about it unless they made it hard for companies to move without giving back what they've taken from the city. There is no chance the companies aren't going to move for cheaper labor. I think that's the real thing — cheaper labor — and you can get it now in the South. This year, General Electric's payroll division is moving to Memphis. If you inquire around, I think you will find a lot of companies moving away."

"The crime rate is going to get really, really high...I don't know what I might do myself."

Linda Jones

Her mother worked at Dr. Scholl's for 17 years.

"I've been here about a year. People are being laid off by department. Some will be here until next year. I'm graduating from beauticians' school next week, so I will be working in a shop soon. So it really doesn't affect me if they close. But if people get laid off from a lot of places and the beauty shop business gets bad I will go to morticians school. That's what I would like to do anyhow."

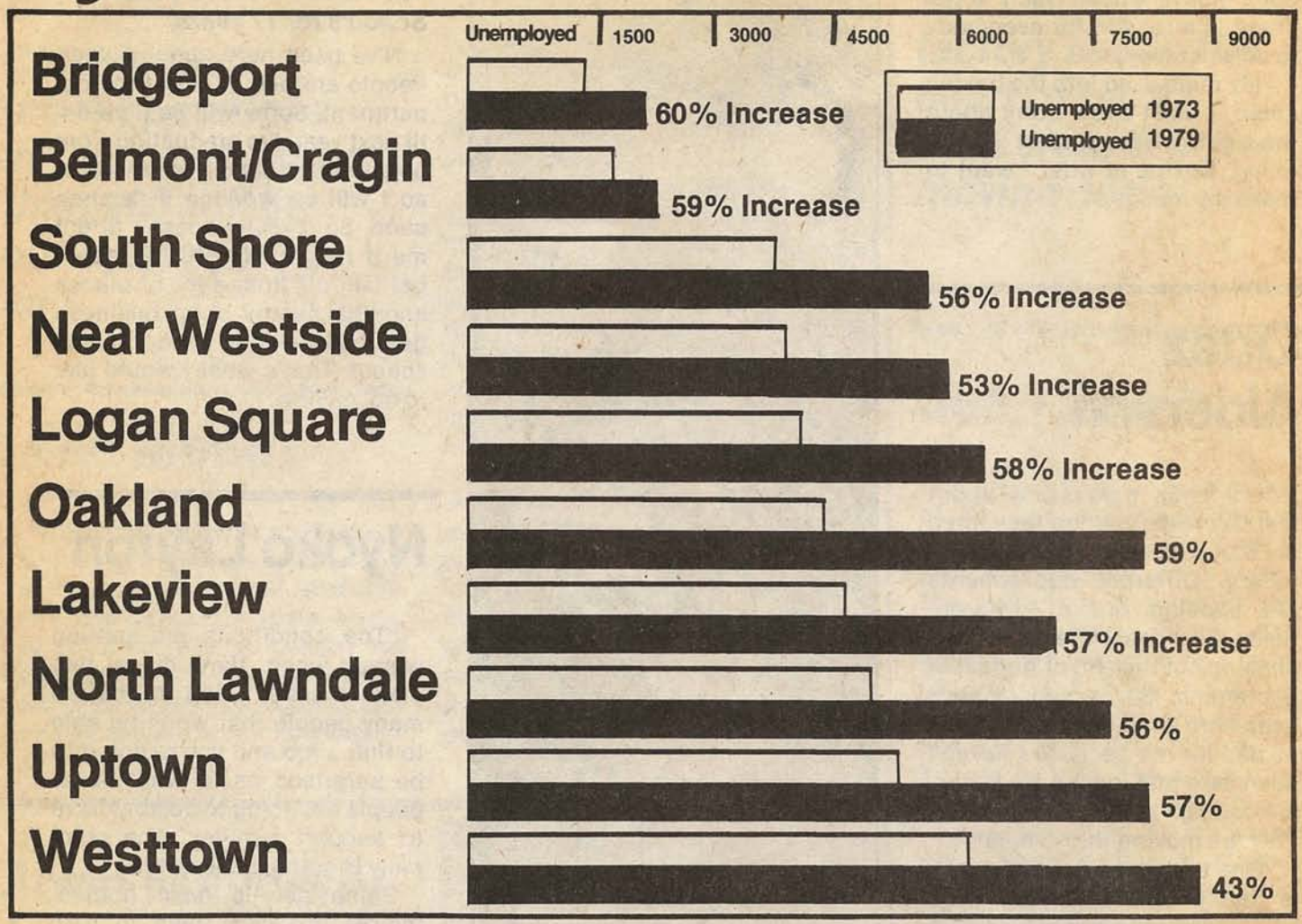
Nyoko Layton

"The conditions are getting worse, when they close this plant there's going to be so many people that won't be able to find a job and you're going to be surprised as to what some people are going to do, that have to support families. The company is going to Memphis.

Some people have homes, they've got cars, bills to pay. When I was laid off in October I got a job right away at the Board of Education, and by the time I got the job I was laid off from there because they had problems. A nice paying job, but they had money problems. If you get laid off now, it's a lot worse than last October. The only reason I'm staying is I live in the neighborhood. People can walk home from here who live in the neighborhood. Things are not going to get better in the city, as a matter of fact, I don't think things will get better in the whole world. I think everything is going to get worse. This will make a big difference in the neighborhood."

Vanishing Jobs

Unemployment — The Ten Hardest Hit



Ten Chicago neighborhoods top the list of those hardest hit by the withdrawal of 165,000 unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled jobs from Chicago in the last several years.

A comparison of neighborhood unemployment rates and real figures between 1973 and 1979, revealed an average increase of 56 percent in these neighborhoods during that time.

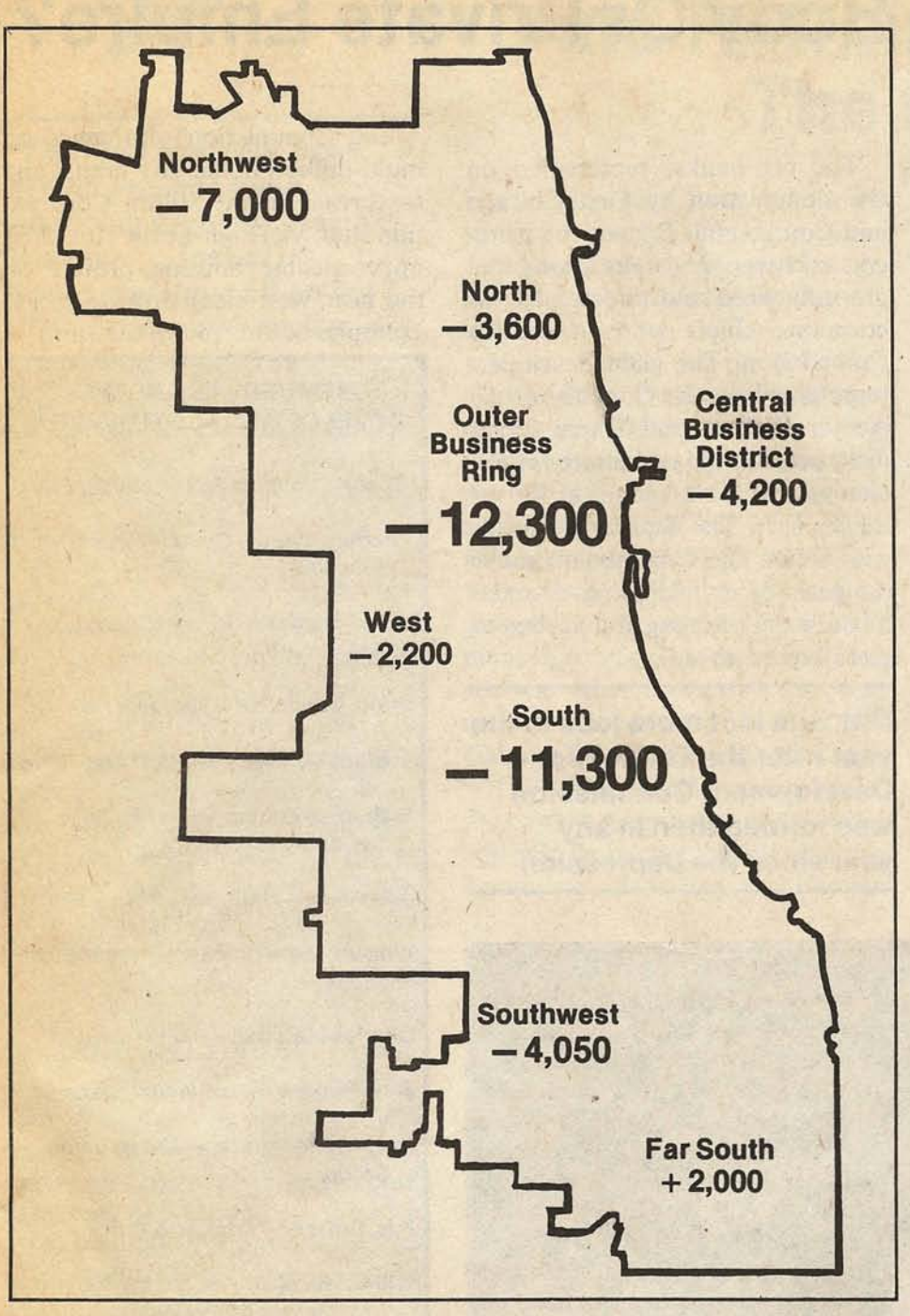
The Bridgeport community suffered an increase of 60 percent from 1973 to 1979, while Westtown showed the largest number of unemployed in the city both years, 9,000 in 1979.

The other eight communities are spread across the city. The presence of a systematic attack on the workforce in those communities only becomes clear when one sees that these ten neighborhoods account for over one-quarter of the city's 200,000 (pre-layoffs) unemployed people. But there are 60 community areas in Chicago. And these ten communities hold 15 percent of the city's population. As the number of manufacturing and wholesale distribution jobs leaving the city increases every year, city government has proven itself less and less willing or able to solve the problem.

For this reason, plus the fact that hundreds of thousands of out of work Chicagoans are not in touch with the unemployment office, the city has never presented the full picture. The 'Hardest Hit' are some of Chicago's oldest and most stable neighborhoods. Massive losses of jobs has and will continue to destabilize and cripple them.

The comparison does not take into account the current round of layoffs (figures are from 1979). Researchers for KEEP STRONG adjusted the real figures upwards to account for all those who are unemployed but not on record.

51,000 Jobs Left Chicago In 1976



***Durable goods:** Lumber and wood products, furniture and fixtures, stone, clay and glass products, primary metal industries, fabricated metal products, nonelectrical machinery, electrical machinery, transportation equipment, professional and scientific instruments and miscellaneous manufacturing.

****Non-Durable Goods:** Food and kindred products, apparel and allied products, paper and allied products, printing and publishing, chemical and allied products, petroleum refining, rubber and miscellaneous plastics, leather and leather products.

One year after the formation of Chicago's prestigious Economic Development Commission (EDC), the city lost the greatest number of jobs (in a 12 month period), since the Depression of 1929.

Almost 51,000 jobs disappeared from the city's economy between March, 1976 and March, 1977.

During that year, more than one-third of 95 zoning changes, passed by the city council, converted industrial property to other uses.

Over 50 percent of the jobs withdrawn from the city that year occurred in just three areas of the city. On the south side from Roosevelt Rd. to 79th Street, between California and Lake Michigan, 11,300 jobs went under. 2,000 of those jobs were in retail trade, over 3,000 in the manufacturing of durable goods* and almost 4,000 of the jobs eliminated were in the service and miscellaneous category (a broad category that takes in all the loose ends). The State Bureau of Employment Security reports the area lost 23,000 jobs from 1972 to 1976.

The second area devastated that year, was the city's outer business ring. An area that surrounds the Loop (central business district) south to 18th Street, west to Ashland and north to North Ave. Here 3,500 jobs in the manufacturing of non-durable goods and 4,200 jobs in the wholesale trades were eliminated between 1976-1977. Over 11,000 jobs left the outer business ring in the previous four years.**

Over 7,000 jobs were removed from the city's northwest side in 1976. Half of these were in just two industries; the manufacture of nonelectrical machinery, and fabricated metal.

(Actually the city watched 94,000 jobs fold-up in 1974-1975. But the national downturn in the economy, not mergers, takeovers or relocations, was the major cause of hundreds of businesses closing.)

Vanishing Jobs

Economic Development Commission — Public Body Or Private Empire?

Organized by Mayor Daley and empowered by the city council in 1975, the EDC's task was to stimulate economic growth and keep and attract jobs to the city. But the growth and jobs they had in mind were part of a masterplan that called for the redevelopment of every community within five miles of the Loop, and eventually the entire city.

The Commission, a powerful group of city department heads and bank and corporate board chairmen began to promote the idea of Chicago as a "corporate headquarters." The key to their "corporate headquarters" strategy lies in the elimination of hundreds of thousands of unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled laborers from the center of the economy and the city.

The big banks, represented on the Commission by First Chicago and Continental, finance the mergers, takeovers and relocations that are influenced and directed by the corporate chiefs who sit on the Commission. The giant developers represented on the Commission by Arthur Rubloff and Harry Chaddick, prepare the real estate for the changeover and make a lot of money at it. The department heads who sit on the Commission move the gears of municipal government to allow the wheeling and dealing to go full speed ahead.

Chicago lost more jobs in the year after the Economic Development Commission was formed than in any year since the Depression

The Commission's influence on multi-million dollar city grants and tax breaks to the Hilton Corporation and McHugh-Levin (for their upper-income housing project on the near west side) provide recent examples of how things can run.

MEMBERS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Robert Abboud-*First National Bank*

Thomas Ayers — *Commonwealth Edison*

Harry Chaddick — *Harry Chaddick Associates*

Frank Considine — *National Can*

Edward Donnell — *Montgomery Ward*

E. Stanley Enlund — *First Federal Savings*

John Gray — *Hart, Schaffner & Marx*

William Lee — *Chicago Federation of Labor*

Charles Marshall — *Illinois Bell*

John Perkins — *Continental Bank*

Norman Perlmutter — *The Heitman Group*

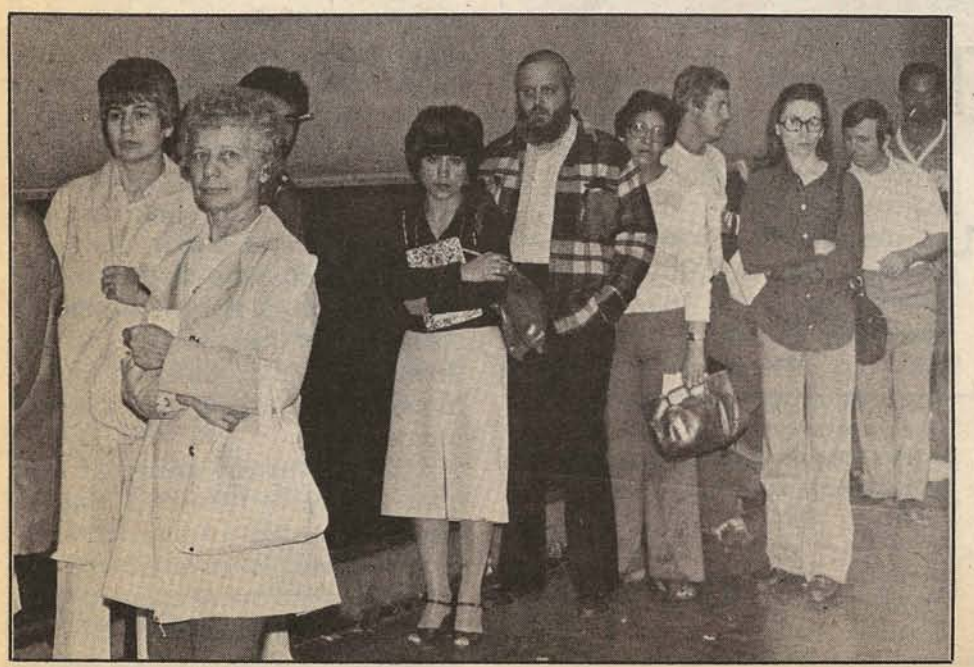
A.N. Pritzker — *Pritzker & Pritzker*

Wilfred Rice, Jr. — *Seyfarth, Shaw, Fairweather & Geraldson*

Arthur Rubloff — *Arthur Rubloff & Co.*

Anderson Scweich — *Chicago Metropolitan Mutal Assurance Co.*

A. Dean Swift — *Sears, Roebuck and Co.*



Vanishing Jobs

Elgin Workers Target EDC – Demand Jobs And Retraining From The City

"The First National Bank of Chicago has been financing Elgin for the past ten years ... four of its Board members sit on the EDC. Don't come here and tell us you didn't know Elgin was leaving."

"I haven't been able to save any money in four to five years. After seven years at Elgin-Waltham I make $5.85 an hour. With this money I support two families – one here and one in Mexico. It hasn't been enough so I also work a part-time job. What am I going to do in two weeks when I'm laid off?

For this 61-year-old worker at the Elgin Watch Company in Chicago, the grim statistics of rising unemployment are a personal nightmare.

On January 15, 1980, Elgin Watch announced plans to move most of its Chicago operations to Miami, Florida. Company officials maintained that the need to "cut costs" was the reason for leaving. They described Chicago as a "high wage union town." Three hundred employees, they disclosed, would be laid off here in June.

On May 20, a group of over 100 Elgin Watch workers, union representatives and community leaders assailed the city of Chicago's Economic Development Commission for allowing Elgin to move and for not insuring the development of programs for the workers left without a job.

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) was established in 1975 by the city council to create new jobs, keep industry in Chicago and to provide training for the unemployed.

Helen Shiller, of the Employment Action Coalition, said that despite the EDC's claim of creating thousands of jobs, the Illinois Bureau of Employment Security reports that 65,000 jobs have left Chicago since 1975. In 1977, she pointed out, 35 of 98 zoning changes in the city "declassified" manufacturing districts to residential and other uses. Most of these zoning changes were made in the Chicago 21 area around the Loop.

The Chicago 21 area is part of the city's masterplan to move upper and middle-income people into the Loop area, displacing manufacturing and lower-income communities already there. Elgin Watch is within the Chicago 21 development area.

EDC staff member Carl Didinato told the group that the EDC was unaware of Elgin Watch plans to relocate out of the state until they read it in the newspapers. He said that EDC Director Charles Sklavanitis last had contact with Elgin Watch in 1975. He stated "there is no way that we can physically force a company to tell us what their plans are. If the company wants to leave, and wants to keep it a secret. . .they have every right to do so."

One participant charged that the EDC has been aware of Elgin's plans all along. "The First National Bank of Chicago has four of its board members sitting on the EDC.

New jobs at a living wage were the issue as Elgin workers confronted the city on May 20th.

Vanishing Jobs

First National has been financing Elgin for the past ten years. Another 15 people on the Commission have major land investments surrounding Elgin (located at 400 S. Jefferson.) Don't come here and tell us that you didn't know Elgin was leaving. Since you blew it, you better find jobs for these people or you and your staff and the entire EDC better resign."

Didinato said that the EDC did not have any specific programs for retraining idled workers. Instead he asked Brindall Zweig, from the Mayor's Office on Employment and Training, to discuss the city's Comprehensive Employment and Training Act program (CETA).

Alma Stevenson, an employee at Elgin, Carlos Quintinilla, organizer for Operation Search, and others blasted CETA as second-rate employment. "CETA pays minimum wage $3.10 an hour for six weeks of training with no guarantee of a job at the end. You'll go hungry on CETA so we can forget about CETA."

Rudolfo Lozano, an organizer for the Ladies Garment Workers Union stated, "I believe that there is a conspiracy being waged against the working communities and minorities in the Chicago area. It is a conspiracy when we see our communities deteriorating. It's about time that we hold accountable those in a position to deal with the situation, the Economic Development Commission." Lozano added, "In the long haul we also realize it's our responsibility to make companies stay here. People in Chicago and across the country are saying, 'We're going to legislate, we're going to demonstrate, we're going to do whatever is necessary to keep those jobs here.' In the end if they don't want to stay, we'll say, 'Let's put those companies in the hands of the people.' "□

A Victory In Westtown

Community Forces Largest Printer To Open Up Hiring

CHICAGO – Chicago-based R.R. Donnelley & Sons is the largest contract printing company in the world. They print *Time Magazine, TV Guide* and the 1,000-page Sears Catalog. They also print the white pages of your phone book.

In 1979, the non-union print house used $300 million in profits to build new plants in Harrisonville, Virginia, Spartanburg, Tennessee and Lancaster, Pennsylvania. In Chicago, they employed 32 Latinos while their total workforce here numbered almost 3,500.

For all these reasons, mainly the last one, representatives of Donnelley, along with officials from three other huge Chicago corporations, were invited into the Westtown community on February 19. Two hundred-fifty people came to Erie House that night to ask questions about the company's employment policies—two out of four companies sent representatives; Donnelley didn't. And the meeting of the Westtown Coalition voted to carry the struggle one step further.

On March 4, 100 Westtown residents occupied Donnelley's corporate offices for several hours. For two hours James Gleason, Donnelley manager for personnel development, refused to talk with the group. But when it became obvious that the demonstrators weren't going to budge, Gleason signed a five-point agreement with the Coalition.

In the agreement Donnelley promised to:

- Review and rewrite their affirmative action (minority hiring) plan;
- Determine the rate of turnovers (employees leaving and job openings) in each job category for the coming year by March 18;
- Negotiate 20 percent of those new jobs to go to Latinos;
- Committed an unspecified percentage of 400 seasonal jobs to the Latino community;
- Identify, by March 18, those jobs at the company that could be performed by people who spoke only Spanish.
- Report on March 18 the results of the interviews Donnelley had given to Westtown residents.

A follow-up meeting was scheduled for March 18 at Donnelley's offices. Coalition members, thinking they had reached an understanding with Donnelley, elected to send six people to the meeting.

Gleason threw his hands in the air and explained he was not prepared to honor the commitment he

Hundreds cheered when Arthur Prince, a Donnelley official announced that Donnelley had agreed to meet the demands.

had made to 100 people only two weeks before.

More than 350 Westtown residents packed Erie House on April 14 to hear Gleason and Carl Burnholdt, another Donnelley manager, flatly deny all the promises they had made on March 4. When the Coalition pressed the men to set up a meeting with Donnelley Board Chairman Charles Lake or President Charles Haffner, they refused. Two hundred people left the meeting and boarded buses headed for Haffner's home.

The demonstration at the president's house brought a quick response.

Board Chairman Charles Lake issued a five-page letter on May 2. Although the letter was addressed to Carlos Quintinilla, leader of the Westtown Operation Search, the group leading the struggle for jobs at Donnelley, it was not written for him. The letter was written for and sent to a group of foundations and organizations that had supported the programs of the Coalition. Its purpose was to get them to stop the Coalition from pursuing its campaign against Donnelley.

"It may give you curious pleasure to know you frightened Mr. Haffner's family...it may be part of your method of operating to cause fear and to terrorize innocent people. These are tactics that have no place in our society....We are sending copies of this letter to several organizations we believe support you one way or another....We feel it is important that your behavior be called to the attention of the supporting organizations....We know of no other way to persuade you that your approach is wrong...."

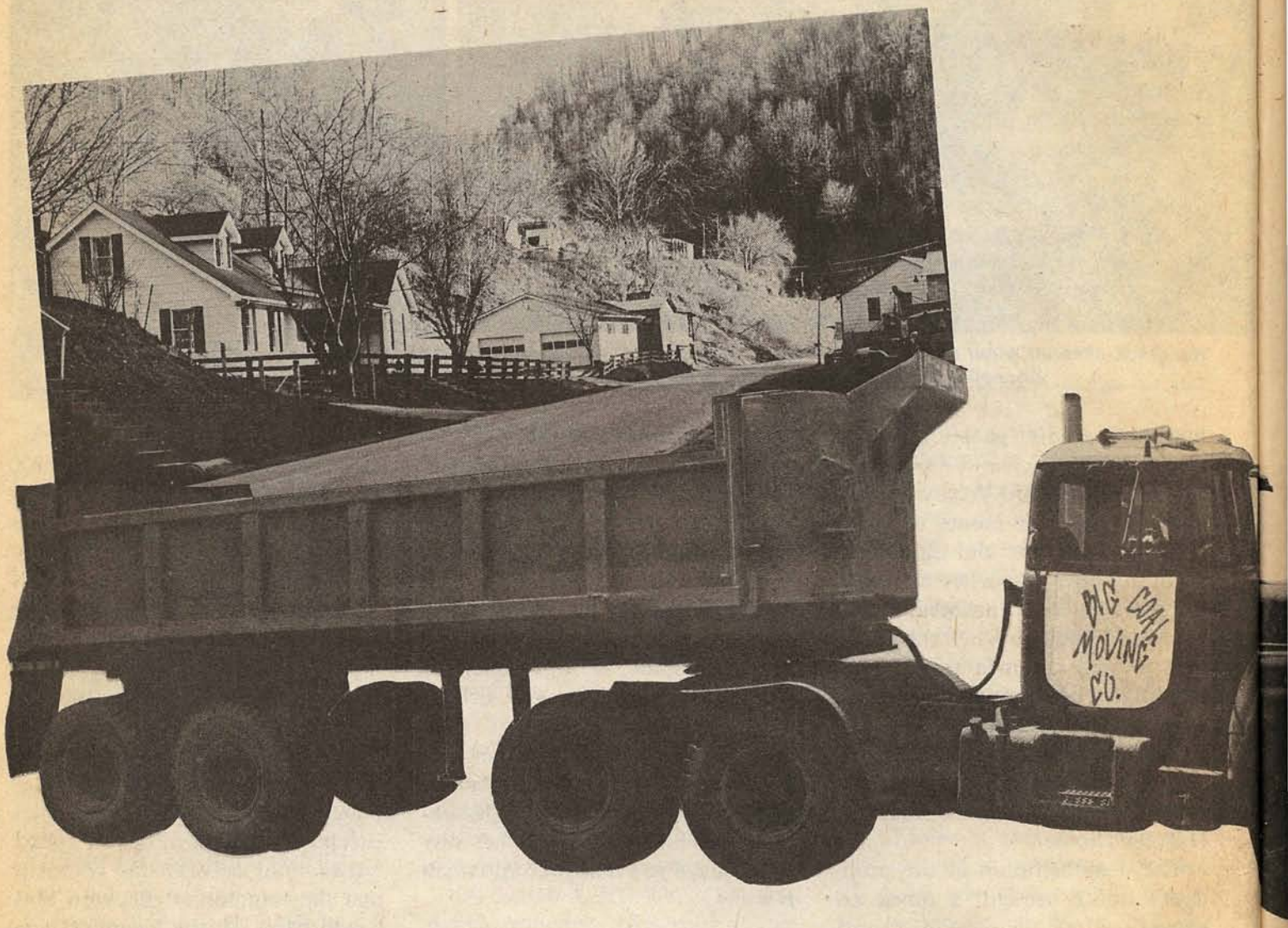
By May 6, Donnelley's intentions were clear. They did not plan on hiring any of the 100 Westtown residents whom they had interviewed or anybody else. More importantly, they would use their position as a giant corporation and their influence with dozens of foundations and try to exterminate the Westtown Coalition for fighting for jobs.

Donnelley's drive to stop the flow of funds into Westtown failed to slow the community down. Within days, the organization met and 200 people voted to press Donnelley further. A public meeting was called for May 20. The organization notified Donnelley of its new demands well in advance of the May 20 date. They were that Donnelley commit itself to hiring 20 percent Latinos from now on, and that they retract their accusation that several hundred Westtown residents were terrorists. Finally, they demanded that a ranking Donnelley executive be present in all future negotiations between the company and the community. Between May 6 and May 20, the Coalition prepared a battery of actions. And Donnelley failed to comply with the demands.

As the crowd gathered in the near westside community of Westtown, in the early afternoon of May 20, word began to filter out. Hundreds cheered when the meeting started and Arthur Prine, a Donnelley official, announced that Donnelley had agreed to meet the demands.

This battle has been won. There will be new targets. □

Beauty, Kentucky
The town that refuses to move



Residents of this tiny Eastern Kentucky coal town are fighting a desperate battle—a battle which if lost will mean the destruction of their community. They are up against the giant coal interests that own the county, the county government which is trying to force people off their own land, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in Washington which is supplying the money. The residents of Beauty, however, are determined. They're not going **anywhere.**

County officials propose to relocate 108 families from Beauty with a $2.8 million HUD block grant. The people of Beauty not only were never consulted or involved in this plan, they practically had to stand on their heads to find out what was being cooked up for them.

Since the folks in Beauty got wind of these plans, tracked down the details and started fighting to save their town, they have also found out that the Beauty project may be only the first step in a masterplan by the coal companies using The Federal Corps of Engineers,

U.S. Department of Agriculture and Appalachian Regional Commission to relocate some 3,000 families in the Tug Fork area.

Relocation plan hidden from residents

The battle began in February. The agency asking HUD for the $2.8 million dollars is the Martin County Housing Agency, which tried its best to keep the plans a secret from the people of Beauty. Knowing that HUD required them to hold a public hearing on the plan, the County Housing Agency held its hearing this February not in Beauty but at the county seat, Inez. An ad announcing the hearing was put in a West Virginia newspaper instead of *The Martin Countian*, which has the largest circulation in the county. No Beauty residents attended the "public" hearing, because they didn't know about it!

In fact, Beauty residents learned the contents of the plan from *Chase Options*, a non-profit group which keeps its eye on HUD block grants in Eastern Kentucky. Even *Options* had to go to higher ups to get the plan, because county officials refused them a copy. As soon as word got to Beauty, a group began to get organized to fight the move. They went door-to-door explaining the plan to those who would be displaced—something the Housing Agency failed to do.

The reaction from Beauty residents was immediate. Over 100 people met in Benny Moore's store to organize the Concerned Citizens of Martin County. Moore's, which sells everything from paint to dry goods, has a room on one side which used to be a doctor's office. Moore won't rent it out. "That's for us," he said. The store has become a headquarters to fight...the grant that Beauty residents fear will turn their community into a ghost town," says Homer Marcum, editor of *The Martin Countian*—the paper that says, "Our Vote is Cast with the People."

When Beauty residents finally heard about plans to relocate their town, they organized and turned out at a mass meeting to protest the housing authority's plans.

Benny Moore owner of the general store and a giant of a man in his community keeps asking the question that is key to the battle: "Who put this proposal together in the first place?"

Giant coal interests behind the plan

Long-time Martin County residents like Lorraine Sloan suspect big coal interests are behind the proposed plan. "It's coal," Sloan said. "They're coming over the mountain and Beauty is in the way.

"They" is Massey Coal Company, one of the region's biggest corporations, all too well-known for its non-union actions, and Island Creek another big company. Massey is strip mining the southern half of the county; Island Creek is getting ready to strip the northern half, residents believe. Beauty lies between the two giants.

In early May, the Concerned Citizens of Martin County filed a complaint with HUD in Louisville charging the County Housing Agency with not following HUD's rules for citizen participation in developing plans.

The Housing Agency had claimed that it had done a survey in Beauty to see how people felt about the project. The peculiar thing is that no one in Beauty can recall being asked anything at all. "We told HUD officials the door-to-door survey mentioned...was never conducted," said Jenny Endicott, president of the Concerned Citizens. In fact, the Concerned Citizens conducted a *real* survey, and the results say the planned displacement is not wanted. "We are capable of deciding our futures," said Endicott.

Officials say the reason for the

"The residents of Beauty are angry... and they're organized."

relocation is to get people out of an area that floods alot. But on May 1, the Concerned Citizens received a copy of HUD flood plain maps which shows that most of Beauty isn't even in the flood plain. In fact, the only part of Beauty which is inside the flood area is *not* part of the relocation project. And at least one possible site where they want to move people into was under water in 1977. "Why must we be relocated from a place never flooded to a place that was under 5 to 9 feet of water?" asked Marianna Bolden, another property owner.

Beauty residents believe that flood control is a front being used by government agencies because Massey and other big companies are interested in the minerals underneath Beauty, and these companies have to get the people off the land to get at those minerals.

"This is our community"

The residents of Beauty are angry, they're scared and they're organized," observed newsman Homer Marcum.

"This is my community," said Benny Moore. "I can go to any door in Beauty and eat supper any time I want to. You can't buy that with no amount of money.

"No amount of money could buy my land. It's not a big place, but my great-grandparents, grandparents and mother lived there. HUD cannot pay for things like that," said another resident.

"We never would have known about this if it had been up to them," Endicott said. Every attempt to get questions answered or to get copies of documents has involved a struggle. Residents of Beauty have been ordered out of the housing agency office. They know they are facing some powerful interests.

The battle with HUD may be just the first stage of the war to save Beauty and other communities in the Tug Fork area. But as people file into Benny Moore's store to plan their next actions, determination visible on their faces, drawing strength from each other, it's hard to imagine how they can be licked.□

(Thanks to Mountain Life & Work from which this article was adapted.)

PLEASANT VALLEY OUTDOOR CENTER: TOWARDS A BETTER HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

Spring will soon turn into Summer at Pleasant Valley. Once again children and adults will be given the opportunity to experience life by exploring new surroundings.

Pleasant Valley has been owned and operated by the Community Renewal Society for over 27 years. Throughout this period the camp has served to bring together children and adults of differing backgrounds to help them understand themselves, others and the world around them,

The Center located only a few miles from Woodstock, Illinois has 460 acres of wooded kettle moraine, virgin prairies and open marshland and includes a farm with small livestock.

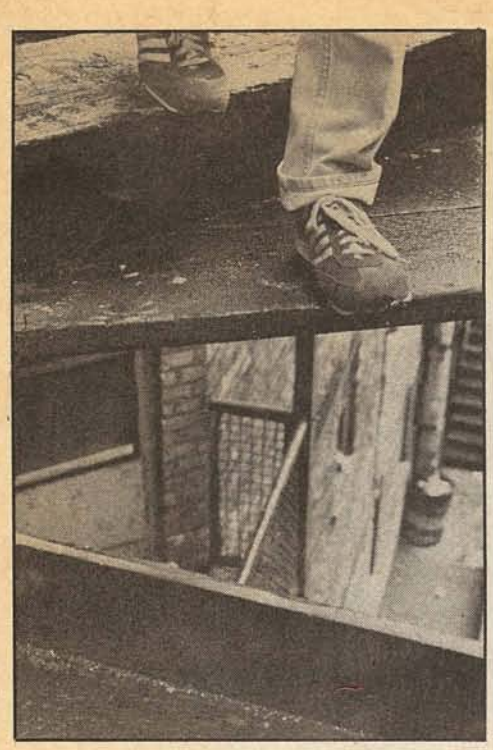
A variety of programs are offered at the Center:

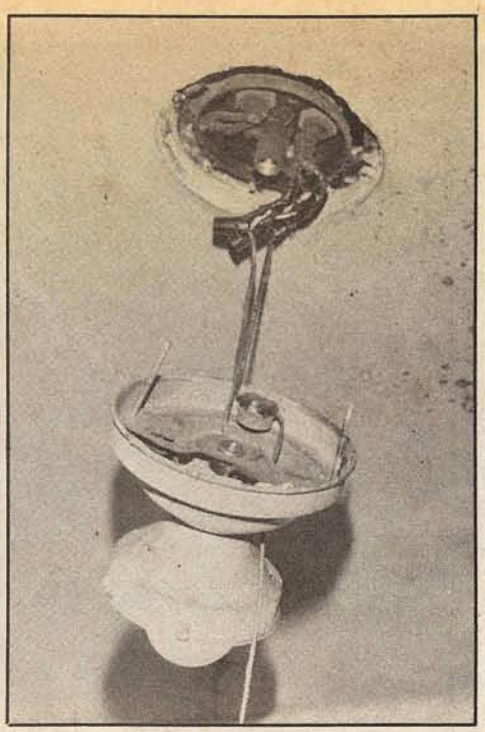
Farm Camp (ages 7-9), Tent Camp (ages 9-13), Family Camp, Senior Camp (ages 15 & older), Hayrides, Retreats & Conferences. Annual Conference on Natural Environments.

Highlighted this Summer at Pleasant Valley is a program designed to enrich Chicago Community Groups in body and spirit. The Economic Cooperative Gardening Project. The Brain Child of Pleasant Valley Outdoor Center Director, Fred Jackson and Community Renewal Society Associate Executive Director Rodney Wead, promises to be a success.

Over 50 Community folk from neighborhoods throughout Chicago have begun planting tomatoes, onions, beans, etc. on over 5 acres of rich cropland. "This project will hopefully develop the machinery necessary to make Cooperation Economics work in Chicago Communities" says Rodney Wead.

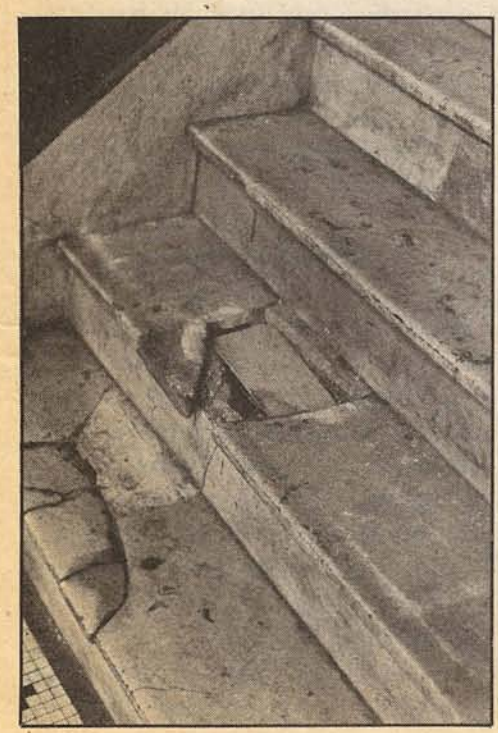
For more information call: Pleasant Valley Outdoor Center
13315 Pleasant Valley Rd., Woodstock, IL 60098 815/338-5080

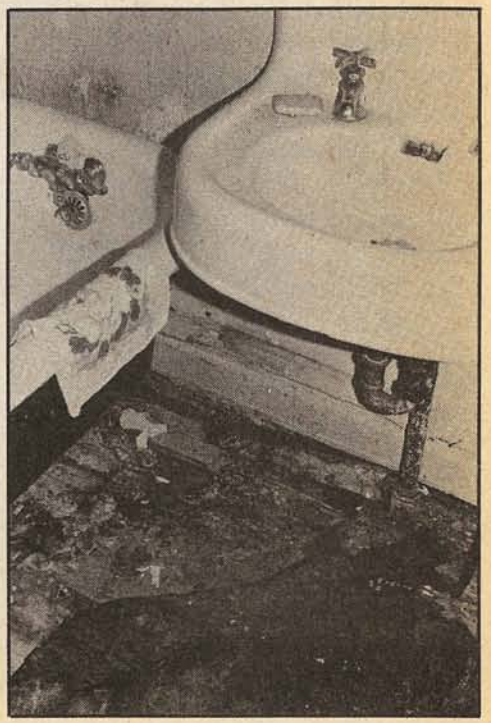




Uptown – The Real Estate War Continues

10 blocks from the lake, 15 minutes from the Loop, Uptown real estate is hot. The hotter it gets, the stronger the drive to push working people from the community...





...All over Uptown, people find real estate speculators watching only the profit line and running housing into the pits.

"I put up a barricade in the dining room at night to keep rats out of the children's bedroom," says Sandy Coley of 4701 N. Magnolia in Uptown. "Even with the barricades I sit up all night with my baby ever since my 13 year old daughter got bit in bed. I don't dare go to sleep."

At opposite ends of Uptown, buildings deteriorate as real estate speculators sit waiting for a chance to "rehabilitate" and reap big profits. Besides rats, the 19 tenants of 4701 N. Magnolia, 1220-22 W. Leland put up with live wires, clogged plumbing, leaky faucets, and holes in the walls, floors and ceilings. Similar problems of criminal neglect confront residents of the southern edge of Uptown, in the 4048-58 N. Sheridan buildings. Thirty-five families were without hot water and cooking gas for five days because the landlord had not paid $12,000 in fuel bills.

After a small child was seriously injured when he stepped on a rotted plank and fell off the back porch, tenants of 4701 N. Magnolia got together and refused to pay their rent. Hull House assisted the tenants in forcing the owner to fix the porch and roof. Instead of pressing for more improvements, however, the Hull House staff advised the tenants to drop their rent strike. Residents of the building felt that Hull House and the landlord came to an agreement on what needed to be done without the tenants' approval.

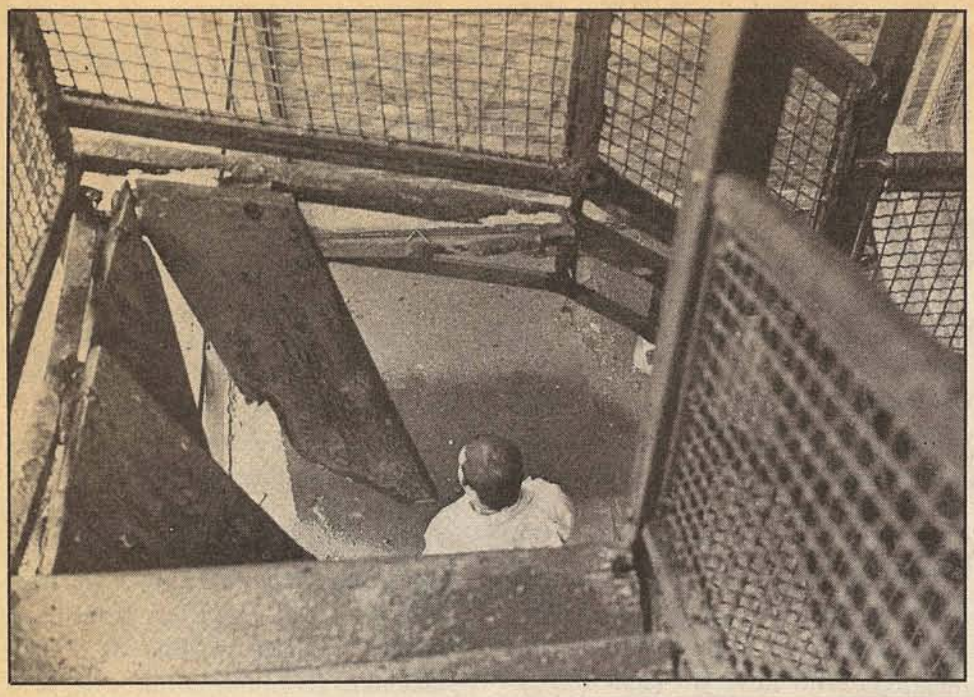
Despite promises from the building manager, Mr. Chester, that interior repairs would be made, a year passed and nothing was done. On May 30, six tenants and lawyers from the Uptown People's Law Center met in Ms. Coley's apartment to discuss some ways they could force the landlord to make long-awaited repairs. Attorney James Chapman said that if the tenants are united they can withhold their rent money, put it into a tenants' controlled "escrow account", and make their own repairs on the building. Chapman said that the law center could back the tenants by filing criminal neglect charges against the landlord. They could also support the tenant's strike because of the landlord's failure to comply with housing court orders to make repairs.

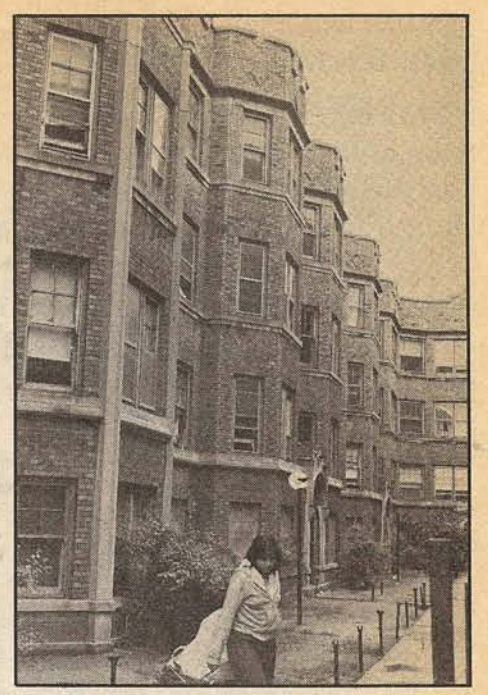
However, a problem facing the tenants at 4701 N. Magnolia was a lack of unity. Other tenants in the building were afraid to join the strike since their apartments weren't so bad off. Several of the tenants who said they would join the rent strike are making plans to move.

After the May 30 meeting, the building manager turned off the electricity on those who had participated in the meeting. Only three have since had their electricity restored. Ms. Coley runs a line from a light socket in the hallway to her apartment and stores her food with a relative since her refrigerator no longer works.

The building was recently sold to Mr. Charles Thomas of Cornell Realty. The manager, Mr. Chester, says that one of the entrances will be shut down. Ms. Coley said that she would like to stay at the apartment with her five children. "Why keep moving from one slum building to another if the conditions are going to remain the same. I say let's make the landlord fix this place up right here."

4048-58 N. Sheridan is another building targeted for eventual



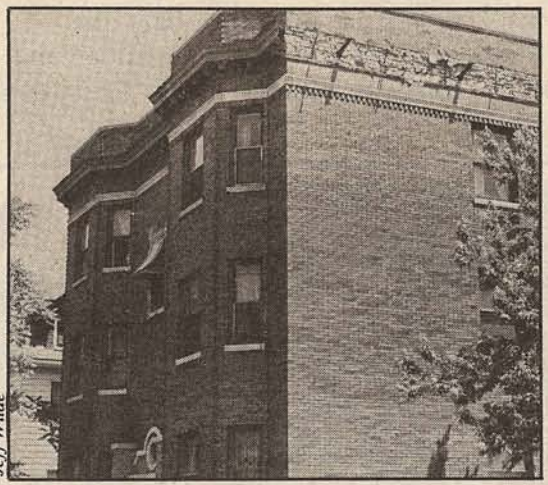


"rehab" by real estate developers. The building is managed by Ildefonso Delo for Harold Lichterman who also owns the Stirling Apartments at 4105 N. Sheridan, 4060 N. Sheridan and 4242 N. Sheridan. Lichterman has allowed his buildings to decay for years.

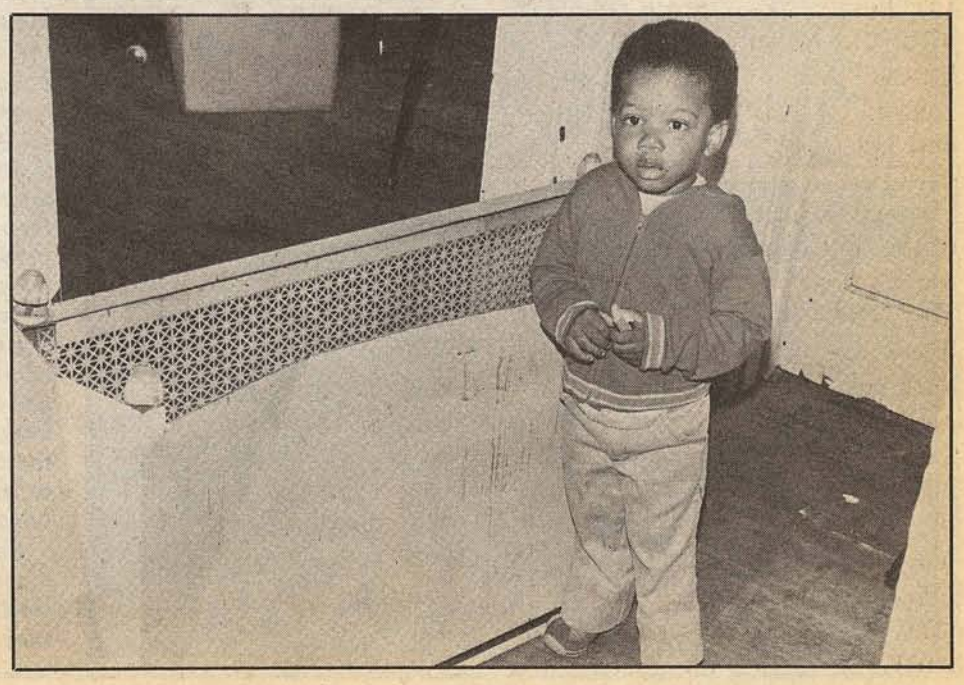
On May 28, two workmen from People's Gas came to 4048-58 N. Sheridan saying they were going to read the meters. Instead, they disconnected the gas service, leaving 35 families without hot water and cooking gas. Canvassers from the Heart of Uptown Coalition's (HOUC) Anti-Displacement Committee discovered that Lichterman had a $12,000 unpaid gas bill. On May 30 he paid $11,300 but the gas company refused to restore the service until the balance was paid the following Monday.

"This is a perfect example of neglect," commented one tenant. "Almost every tenant was up-to-date with their rent payments which included gas service. You can imagine what condition the rest of the building is in."

Almost all of the 45 units have falling plaster due to bad plumbing. The hallways need plastering and



Jeff Wilde



Criminal neglect by landlords confront tenants living on the southern edge of Uptown. Above: Missing steps on the back porch at 4058 N. Sheridan where families went without hot water and gas for a week because the landlord owed $12,000 in fuel bills. Left and below: 4701 N. Magnolia where tenants put up barricades nightly to keep rats out of their children's bedrooms.

Real Estate –

"Why keep moving from one slum building to another if conditions are going to remain the same?"

the garbage goes uncollected for weeks. Some tenants have paid out of their pockets for exterminators to get rid of the roaches, mice and rats.

The most dangerous problem, however, is the back porch fire escape. A whole half flight of steps is missing between the first and second floor. There are missing and rotted steps on all the stairways and a third floor stairway has no railing at all.

The whole area from Irving Park to Montrose has been designated for condominium conversions by Lichterman and developer Bill Thompson who is financing the Montrose-Pensacola shopping center. The area is being called "Clarendon Park" in realty brochures to entice other real estate dealers into the area.

HOUC members found out that most of the tenants in the Lichterman buildings are undocumented workers who have no legal status. "They are afraid to fight the criminal housing code violations and evictions in court. When the interest rates go down and Lichterman and his partners decide to renovate the buildings they will have no problems vacating the tenants within 60 days."

Attorney James Chapman agrees, "The entire Uptown area has been targeted by real estate developers who want to move poor people out. They do it by allowing the buildings to deteriorate until they are unfit for living. All the while they collect rent money to finance other deals they have going in other neighborhoods. Sometimes they'll have the buildings burned down in order to collect insurance money." Chapman added, "Displacement from our community is a building by building battle. When the people are moved out there really isn't anywhere else to go."□

Magnolia St. Tenants Fight Chicago Rats

This spring the garbage went uncollected for two weeks at 4619 Magnolia. Piles of garbage drew rats and mice that ate their way through the walls into the building's apartments. The tenants began to organize when a two year old girl was bitten by a rat on May 23.

A building meeting was called and the landlord told to appear. He had been warned for several months that failure to correct problems could cost him control of the building.

Tenants in the building, members of the Heart of Uptown Coalition, were prepared to withhold their rents in order to pay the bills and kill the rats. Before the meeting was over, he promised to apply for financial aid for the upkeep of the property and hire an exterminator for the rat problem. The garbage was collected the next day.

Sherry Johnson, an organizer of the meeting, is not yet satisfied, "We live here, we know what's going on. We'll work until they do what they're supposed to do."

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The Board of Education and the Cuts

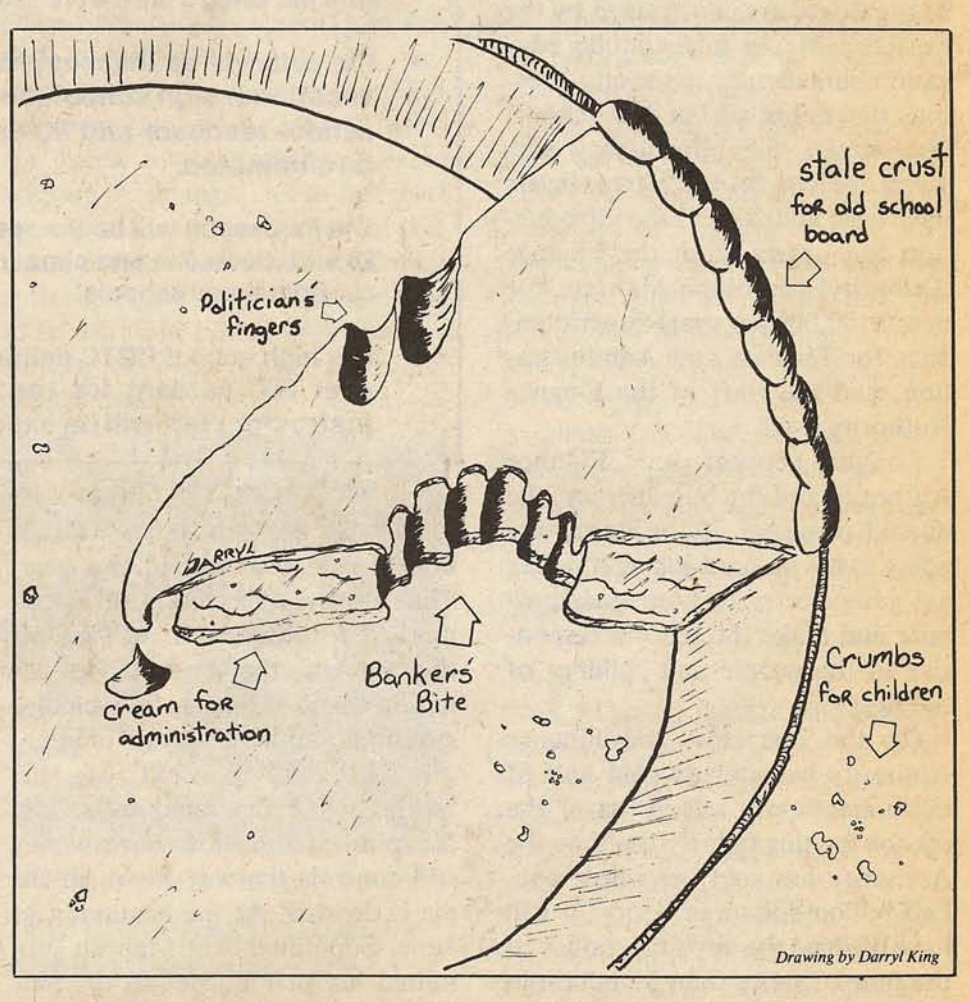
by George N. Schmidt

The new Chicago Board of Education is probably the first in the city's history to include a majority of members who believe that the children of Chicago – all the children – can be educated. Previous Boards have been deliberately established by the Mayor to insure that various power blocs had access to the Board of Education's billion dollar budget. Real estate interests and those who favored racial segregation were always guaranteed a majority on the Board. Conservative building trade unions and downtown businesses were represented.

Ironically, then, the new Board of Education may change those long-established traditions. This is ironic because ten of the eleven members of the Board were recommended by Chicago United, a group of the city's largest corporations and minority business leaders. When the Board was first appointed by Chicago United (through the Mayor's office, of course), there was no reason to believe that its members would not represent Chicago United. However, their first act was to elect Reverend Kenneth Smith, rather than former Commonwealth Edison chairman, Thomas Ayers, as president of the Board. Since then, Board members have been soliciting community feedback all over the city: visiting schools, meeting with community organizations (often until very late hours of the night) and trying to untangle the various problems of the Chicago public schools.

It will take time for the new Board to establish a record that can

The Chicago School Budget



Drawing by Darryl King

be publicly scrutinized. In the meantime, however, there is reason for every community in the city to increase its activity in the public schools and talk with members of the Board.

Even if the members of the new Board of Education want to run the schools in the best interests of the children, they face two major obstacles in doing so. With the establishment of the Chicago Public School Finance Authority in January, the powers of the Board of Education are limited. The Authority effectively controls the purse strings.

On the other side, the members of the Board are constrained by the existence of the huge public education bureaucracy in the city. Despite the upheavals in the schools last winter, the bureaucracy survived intact. In fact, two layers have been added to it: the introduction (on orders from the Finance Authority) of Joseph Mahran, the new ($100,000 per year) Superintendent for Finance and Administration, and the staff of the Finance Authority itself.

Caught between the Finance Authority and the bureaucracy, the unpaid members of the Board are going to have a hard job of it if they are going to try to keep their promise and make the schools responsive to the people and children of the city.

On the one side, the Finance Authority has already sold half of the bonds it will sell to "save" the schools by this fall. By the time the Authority has sold the whole one-half billion dollars in bonds, it will have pledged the city's tax money to the tune of more than $1 billion in *interest* on those bonds over the next 29 years. Compared with a year ago, four times as much of the educational tax dollar will be going to "debt service" (the interest on the bonds) next year as did this year. That money, collected in taxes earmarked for education, will go off the top of the budget, to the nation's largest banks, financial institutions and wealthy individuals.

Within the context of this "shrinking" educational-dollar pie, the public education bureaucracy still controls the way in which the pie is divided. At the beginning of June, Superintendent Mahran submitted his first budget to the new Board. Not surprisingly, it makes the biggest cuts at the local school level, preserving as much of the bureaucracy as possible.

For example, Mahran himself, who is being paid $100,000 per year, has budgeted his department to have two $50,000 per year "research assistants." Additionally, he is asking for $250,000 to hire his own "financial consultants." Rumors went around the Board of Education on June 20, that the first of these consultants will be former Board of Education president Catherine Rohter, who is scheduled to be hired at $30,000 per year.

The rest of the bureaucracy is doing the same. Where possible, jobs are being saved for those who are not teaching children at the expense of those who are. □

1980 – 1981 BUDGET FACTS

Hearings on the new Board of Education budget began on Monday, June 23.

- **The Board of Education will have eliminated 4,360 jobs by this September.**
- **The Department of Employee Relations will increase its budget to over half a million dollars and the number of employees from 15 to 21.**
- **Dr. Manford Byrd and Albert Briggs both participated in the walkout at the Board of Education chamber last January, to protest police brutality after eight people were arrested there. The new budget does not provide Dr. Byrd with a secretary and cuts Mr. Brigg's staff from 173 to 120.**
- **The cuts will be the most harsh in the local schools. Seventy vocational high school teachers, 1,154 regular elementary school teachers and 90 upper-grade center teachers will be eliminated.**
- **The hardest hit will be the special education schools. More than 90 staff positions and almost 50 career service positions will be cut from these schools.**
- **The high school ROTC (military training) program will increase over 600 percent for the coming school year. The five-instructor staff will be expanded to 36.**

Parents Congress Launches Membership Drive

While Tom Ayers' appointment to and resignation from the School Board was grabbing the headlines and embarassing the Mayor, and the Board was finding out that $33 million in federal funds were lost, parents in more than one Chicago neighborhood were moving to organize in preparation for the start of the new school year in September.

In mid-June the School Board made public its budget for the '80-'81 school year. Six thousand teachers and aides who were in classrooms last year, won't be there this fall.

In Uptown and a dozen other neighborhoods, parents who want to face the School Board and the Finance Authority in September with strength and backing, have turned first to the other parents around them. Their object is to put together an organization that can stay in touch with and mobilize hundreds of thousands of parents.

A circular in English and Spanish explains the purpose of the new Parents Congress:

"The parents of Chicago have a simple but terrible power. If the children don't go to school, there is no school. No one gets paid: no contractor, no employees, no politicians, if there are no children in the schools. The City of Chicago has put its credit on the line to back up the repayment of the bonds, and the city could lose its credit rating; could go bankrupt.

"Since the parents have this power, the parents should and will have a voice. But we need a congress. The Congress is not another parent organization. Many different points of view are represented because it is open to all parents who have the support of at least 25 other parents from their school. It is not an organization that belongs to anybody: it is a voice for the parents in a time of our children's greatest need."

"Parents could support each other, educate each other...parents should be able to go into the school regularly."

Linda Almeida, with one child in Stockton Elementary School, has been working for several weeks to build an organization among parents at that school. She explains the frustration that many parents feel in looking at their children's education in Chicago:

"You know and I know that you can't do anything without a high school diploma. But the education these kids are getting doesn't prepare them for anything at all. I've heard a teacher say, 'These kids are never going to be anything, so why worry, why bother?' The schools are overcrowded. There are big problems for slow learners. Even fast learners don't do well in overcrowded situations. Kids don't get the full experiences they should and this causes the higher drop-out rate, I believe."

The young mother pauses for a moment, then directs her impatience at other parents, "Listen, the PTA doesn't happen. No one is involved in that. Parents have got to come forward and say what's on their mind. People tend to stand back and not get involved." She realizes how little control Chicago parents have over their children's education, now. She points with emphasis as she says, "We definitely need a push to get people in-

Judy Dailey signs up another Uptown mother for the new Parents Congress. The Congress will set up a Board of Parents in schools, to interview teachers, principals and staff. The object is to build an organization to "be a voice for the parents in a time of our children's greatest need."

volved."

But getting involved is not just coming to a meeting once a month, according to Bev Ross, an organizer of the Congress in Uptown, "Parents could support each other and educate each other about the structure [of the Board of Education]. Parents should be able to go into the school regularly. The teachers don't know everything about the kids. A degree doesn't mean you know everything. The attitude of most principals and some teachers is that they are professionals and parents don't know anything. We have to come down hard on that in each and every school."

As September approaches, parents in at least half a dozen neighborhoods can expect to hear more about the Congress' growing voice. Ross continues, "We are tired of them trying to belittle some kids in front of other children about their mothers not having a job. The Congress will form a Board of Parents at every school to interview teachers, principals and staff."□

In North Lakeview

Blaine Parents Organize For Better Schools

Parents at Blaine School are involved in an exciting effort to ensure their children receive a good education. Blaine School is located at Southport and Grace Streets. There are about 750 children in the school, 60 percent are Latino and 35 percent are White.

The movement at Blaine School started in March, when members of the North Lakeview Community Union (NLCU) wanted to do something about the problems at Blaine, as well as the financial cuts that were ordered after the bank takeover of the schools.

A school committee was formed by the Union and at the first meeting, the parents decided to draw up a petition. The petition called for parents to have access to information about the cuts at Blaine and a public hearing so parents could voice their concerns. Demands were:

1. Abolish the school finance authority.

2. Until all money owed the public school system is collected, no cuts should be made.

3. Parents must have an organization with policy-making powers.

4. We demand that the state, city and the federal government carry out their legal responsibility to adequately fund the public schools.

Over 200 parents signed the petition and on May 19, a meeting was held at the Blaine assembly hall.

Because of the wide support the school committee had, both the PTA and Parents Advisory Council (PAC) supported these demands.

Fran Sampson, who is the president of the PAC suggested that a delegation of Blaine parents go to the citywide PTA and bring the demands there, to see if they would lend their support. She also proposed to send a group to the State's Attorney's office to pressure them to collect $300 million in back taxes that big corporations owe the schools.

Parents at Blaine then made it clear that having a seat at the bargaining table is the only way to see their demands become real. At this time the banks are represented by the School Finance Authority and the teachers are represented by the union and no one is representing the point of view of the students.

Mary Molina, who lives on the 3700 block of Janssen, has three children at Blaine. She has lived in North Lakeview for ten years and is an active member of the school committee of the NLCU and a delegate to the Parents Congress. She spoke about the movement, "I was disappointed in the turnout at the meeting. There should have been more parents there. The PTA and PAC saw we had a good thing going and a lot of parents followed us and most of the people at the meeting backed us up. So they supported our demands.

"If we can get a seat at the bargaining table the parents can demand the big corporations pay the money they owe. That comes to about $300 million and we wouldn't have to have any cuts. If not, they will cut the classes we need most, the bilingual, reading and speech classes.

"It is not going to be easy to organize because many mothers have to work to survive and it's going to be difficult to put together a parents' strike that is effective.

"Parents can close down the whole system and everybody involved would raise a lot of hell."

"But if we win, then we will get our seat, because parents can close down the whole system and everyone involved would raise a lot of hell. We can send our children back to school when we are guaranteed our children will receive a better education to give the child a better understanding."

Mary Molina – "If we can get a seat at the bargaining table the parents can demand the big corporations pay the money they owe."

Sue Williams, left, and Mary Rodgers, right, (seated on the couch)—"If there are enough parents that can get together and there is good leadership, then we can succeed."

Sue Williams and Mary Rodgers are sisters with children at Blaine School. They came to the meeting at Blaine because they are outspoken.

Sue and Mary discussed some of the problems in the school, "I became an active member because my son goes to Blaine. It's very important to make parents aware, because most parents feel there isn't anything you can do. They don't feel they know enough about the problems. They feel very hopeless. I'm not even sure what I can do to change the situation, but I have to try.

"If there are enough parents that can get together and there is good leadership, we will succeed. As I see it, there's a problem, when the child first goes to school they are interested in everything and after three or four years they become bored to death. Many times children are discouraged from asking questions. It's wrong for teachers to act like it's a problem to answer the question or make it seem the question is stupid. The teacher has to say, 'I'm glad you asked that question.' My daughter at Lane Tech was told not to ask questions and hollered at when she did. She shouldn't be made to feel foolish.

"The first thing about a parents' strike is it would have to be citywide. That's the only way they would notice us and then we would only be taking a gamble. I can't understand why they can't collect the back taxes. I thought that was why we elected our officials for State Representative and Congressman. I pay my taxes and they have a lot more money than me. The people we elect are supposed to take care of that.

"The parents best represent the child. The teachers should too, but as of now there isn't one person who represents the child's interest—not one. Who negotiates with the banks or teachers union?

"It's time to make someone listen to reason. If we don't it's because we're unorganized and we might have to do something outrageous. *A Parents Congress is what we need. We have to have our own representatives who can go downtown and we would decide what we want them to do or say."*□

Buchanan County Parents Fight For Better Schools

BUCHANAN COUNTY, VA.—

Parents here who turned out in record numbers last February and forced the County Board of Supervisors to eliminate cuts in the building of badly needed new schools, are keeping a sharp eye on the board as plans for constructing four new schools move forward. (see KEEP STRONG, May-June, 1980.)

The new buildings will replace crowded and dangerous schools. Whitewood High School is an example of the conditions students and teachers face. It's shared by high school and elementary youngsters who trek back and forth to ten outdoor trailers all day long. The roof leaks, classrooms are overcrowded and there is a big shortage of storage space. The Board of Supervisors had planned only two new buildings, until 700 people attending their meeting insured that four new schools would be built.

Dr. Bob Gillespie, assistant superintendent of the system, reports that $11 million has already been raised with $6.1 million to go. The funds raised so far have come from the State Literary Fund—money from traffic fines and from the sale of school board bonds. Gillespie says he expects the rest of the funds to come from more bond sales.

Parents in the county, who have seen promised new schools melt into nowhere before, are determined to see that these necessary new buildings are constructed this time.□

Cathy Stanley/Mountain Life and Work

Students on steps of one of Buchanan County's dangerous and overcrowded schools. Their parents have turned out in hundreds to demand that four new schools will be built.

L.A. Schools Sued

LOS ANGELES—On May 14, the Community Group for Quality Education (CGQE) filed a federal civil rights lawsuit against the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). The plaintiffs charge that for the past three academic years, Black children have been suspended and expelled at a rate of more than twice that of non-Black students. They further charge that the higher suspension and expulsion rate is due to, "the deliberate application of racially biased discipline policies and practices of the the LAUSD."

Spokespersons for the CGQE state that many Black students are being punished arbitrarily and the punishment is out of proportion to their offenses. They challenge that there is no single standard discipline code applied to all students, also, in many cases of student suspensions, the people who make the decisions are the same people responsible for the charges against the student. The lawsuit asks the court to order the school district to develop a written code of discipline, containing the type of action for which a student can be punished and the range of punishment that can be applied. "School authorities should establish an independent and impartial hearing officer who would hold hearings according to due process of law."

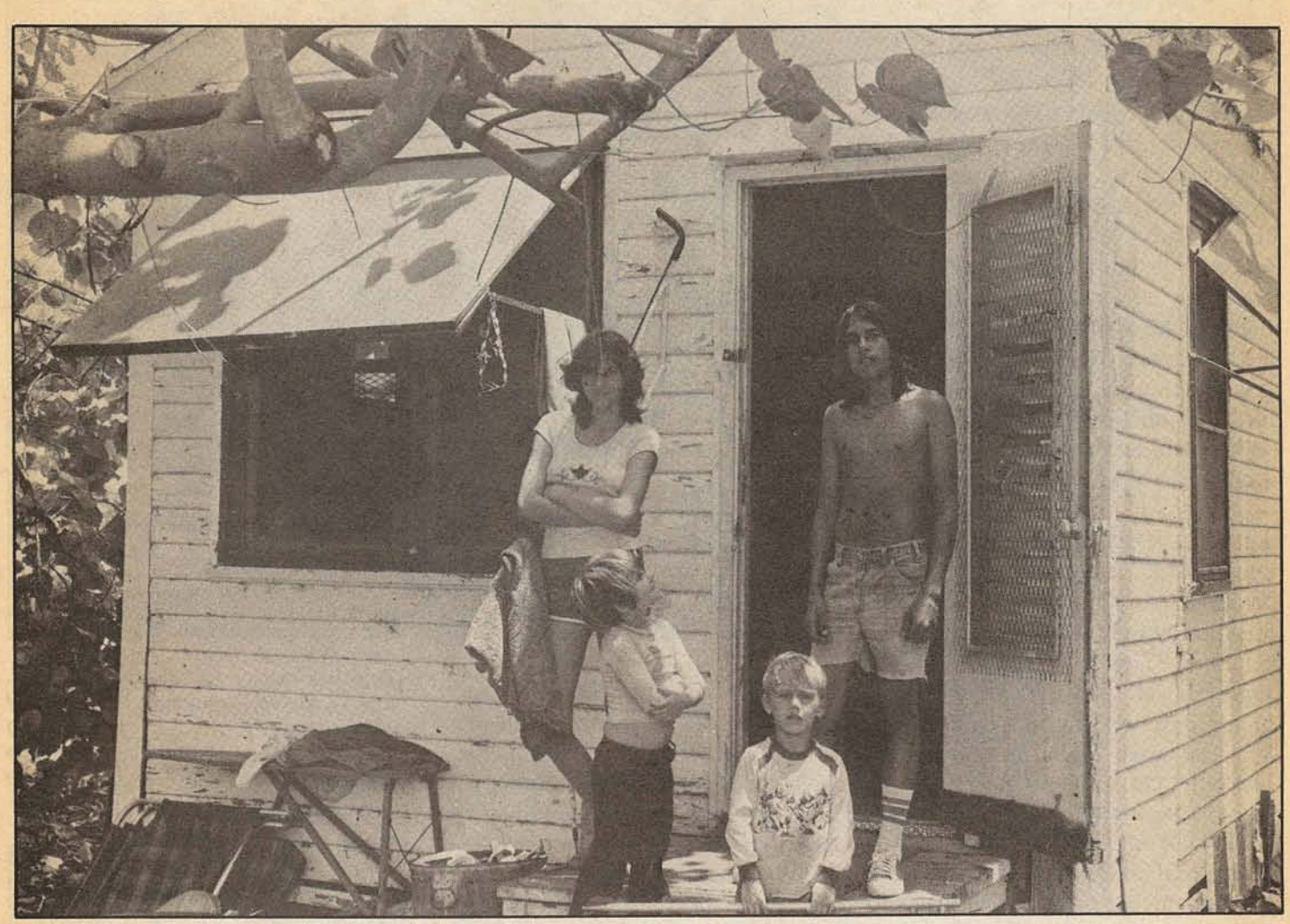
The suit, supported by a broad range of organizations in Los Angeles, contends that, "by refusing to reform its discipline procedures, the Los Angeles Unified School District has effectively denied children their constitutionally guaranteed right to an equal and quality education."□

CORRECTIONS

Our apologies to Farayi Muniki who was not credited for his photos in "Independence For Zimbabwe" May/June, 1980 KEEP STRONG.

Miami

The Global Gateway and the Iron Heel



Nicholas Rizvi and his cousins live only a few blocks from Liberty City. Racial tensions in their predominantly Black school kept them away for weeks after the riots.

Photos by Jerry Thayer

...Where twenty percent unemployment would be twenty percent better than it is today.

Miami-Florida

A giant wall cuts the city in half. For twenty years it has served as the corner stone of the city's policy. The city's policy has been build for the rich; contain and starve out the poor. The wall is an expressway. A twenty minute ride down it from North Miami Beach to 41st St. explains the reason for the wall. To the east, there is money, big money, always new money. South American money, oil money, drug money, Chase Manhattan, BankAmerica and Citicorp money. They're buying land, building office buildings and condominiums and shopping centers and playgrounds for the "technocrats" who are drawn here by the money.

On the west, there are the people. White and Black Americans, White and Black Cubans, Haitians, Puerto Ricans and all others. These are the people who do the work or did the work when they got a

Miami

For ten blocks in four directions, are the

chance. The two dollar an hour busboys, the piece rate seamstresses, the twenty-four hour security guards and all others. This is where the bulk of Dade County's (Metropolitan Miami and Miami Beach regional government's) 60,000 substandard housing units are. This is where twenty percent unemployment would be twenty percent better than it is today. This is where thousands of young Blacks took a stand in the middle of May.

A few blocks off the expressway a gray-haired woman stands in the door of her tiny apartment and winces as she stares at the hot Miami sun beating down on NW 100th Street. She points sadly to her husband standing next to her and explains, "This is a man who is 89 years old. He doesn't even get two hundred dollars a month to live on. The last week of every month we just don't eat very much. We've lived here six years this time. We moved down from New York. If I didn't get sick I'd still be up there. We only drive the car once a week to and from church. We can't go anywhere else because we can't afford the gas. God knows he's lucky that he's a veteran (WWI). The VA pays for all his medicine. Imagine if he wasn't a veteran. With his check we have to buy the food and pay a few expenses. Mine goes for the rent. We tried to get coupons (food stamps). You have to wait about four hours. You feel like you don't want to go back there. They'd just tell me no anyway.

R. T. Sherman and his wife must survive on less than $400 a month. The rent of $175 eats 45 percent of their income. "When they were rioting, we stayed in the house and locked the door...I don't think it's fair. The way many of these people can't get help. They're helping all these Cubans. They should take care of our people first.

The Shermans, a White couple, live on the northern fringes of Liberty City. Liberty City is the largest Black ghetto in Miami, not the only, just the largest.

(Top) The Norton tire plant at 62nd St. and 17th Ave.—reduced to a pile of rubble. (Bottom) Omni-Hotel shopping complex built as a playground for the 'technocrats' drawn to Miami by new jobs in international trade.

Liberty City

The corner of NW 62nd Street and 17th Avenue is a wide and busy intersection in the middle of Liberty City. For ten blocks in four directions, the streets are cluttered with the burned remains of hundreds of businesses. All that is left of the Norton Tire Plant on the corner is twisted metal amidst piles of concrete rubble. Liberty City exploded

burned remains of hundreds of businesses.

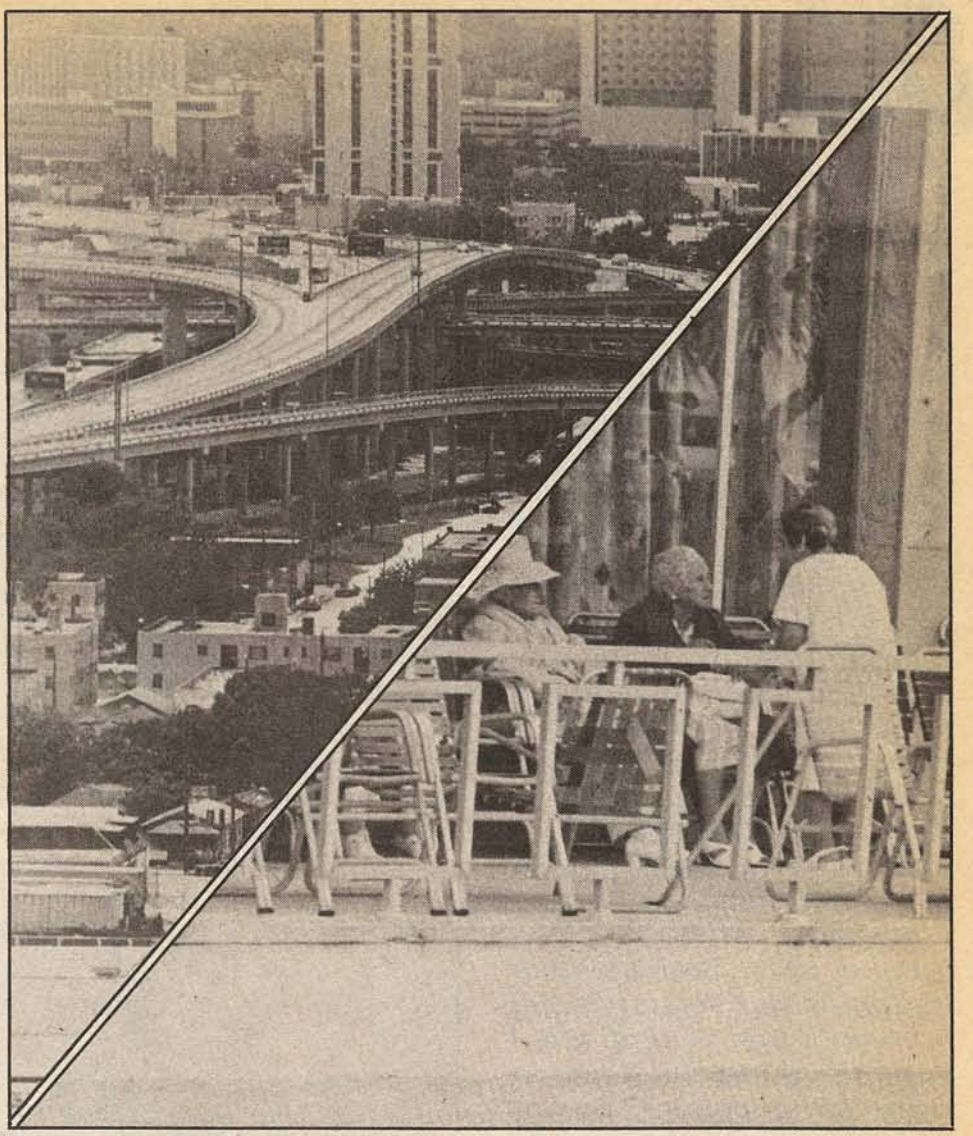
on May 18, when a six-man jury in Tampa, Florida acquitted four ex-Miami policemen in the beating death of Arthur McDuffie.

St. Petersburg Times Reporter, Marcia Slacum, filed daily reports to her paper on the case as it proceeded through trial. Short excerpts from April 6, 30 and May 18, offer a complete history.

April 6—**Arthur McDuffie was riding his motorcycle down a Miami street one night last December. Police say he ran a red light, then fled when police officers tried to stop him. Prosecutors say the officers chased McDuffie, stopped him, and then viciously beat him. McDuffie died in a hospital four days later....Because of all the publicity, Judge Lenore Nesbitt moved the trial to Tampa...but there too, publicity was widespread.**

April 30—**Hanlon said police officers surrounded McDuffie when he arrived on the scene in the early morning hours of December 17. McDuffie, riding a motorcycle, had just led police on a high speed chase. When he saw that the officers were having trouble subduing McDuffie, Hanlon said he jabbed McDuffie in the back with his nightstick. "Seeing that that had no effect, I took the nightstick and slipped it around his neck. I was going to pull him back and try to choke him." He had gotten up and was "dusting myself off" when he saw officer Alex Marrero rear back and smash McDuffie in the head with his oversize flashlight....**

May 18—**Four White former Dade County policemen were found innocent Saturday, of beating Black Miami businessman Arthur McDuffie to death. The six White men who made up the jury deliberated for less than three hours....**



(Bottom) 15,000 senior citizens like those above, will be removed from their homes at the south end of Miami Beach. The masterplan calls for the development of a marina resort. (Top) The North-South expressway that divided the city, created Overtown and moved 3,500 Black families away from downtown.

Marjorie Vogel lives a few blocks from the Shermans. She's been there almost thirty years and she doesn't like what's going on in Miami. "I felt it was a great injustice in the McDuffie case. And I still feel it was a great injustice.

"But I believe the young Blacks should get out and get to work instead of burning and looting. I wouldn't mind paying an extra penny tax (referring to Florida Governor Graham's proposal to raise the sales tax one cent to raise $300 million to 'repair damage from the riots and rebuild the ghetto') to help 100 senior citizens. I'd gladly give up a penny. That's my true opinion. We've all worked pretty hard. This has been a quiet neighborhood. We are a mixed neighborhood. There are Black families down the street and across the street. I have no objection to race. I'll tell you what the problem is. The judges and the higher ups. The higher ups are causing the problems, not the working people."

There is something about the system down here that Marjorie Vogel doesn't like. She thinks she has her finger on it. She sees the young Blacks not working and rioting and the judges letting rapists walk. Mrs. Vogel knows she's been pushed aside, along with three-quarter of a million other Miamians.

Miami

The Global Gateway

The cover of *Miami* magazine announces the city as the "Global Gateway." Inside five businessmen sit around a table and chat about the future.

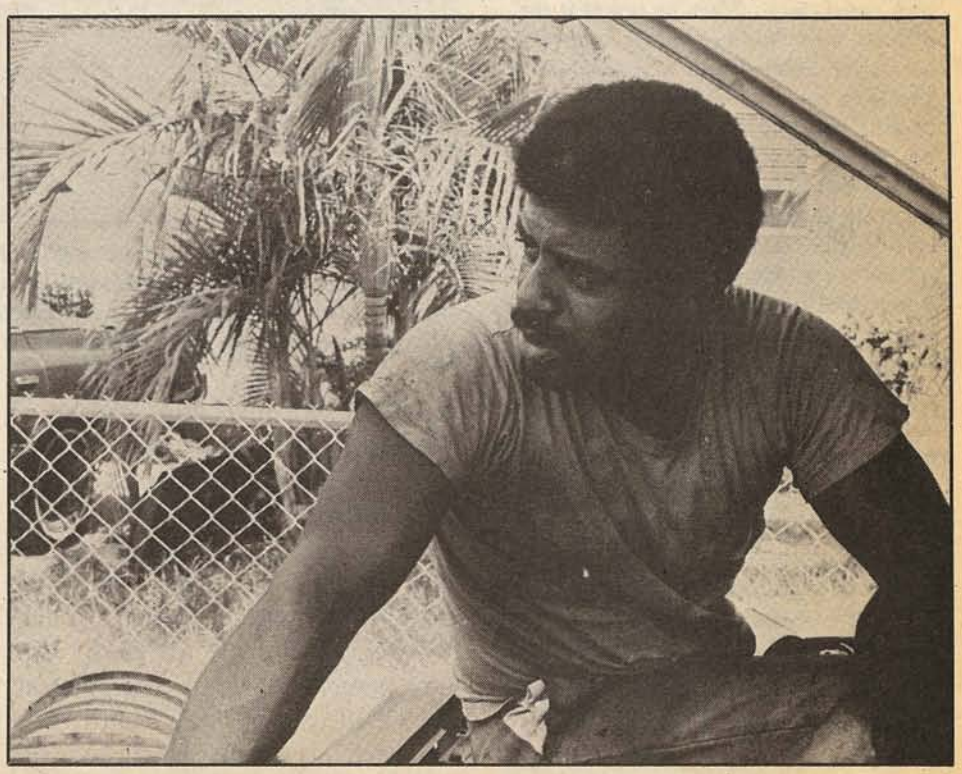
Roy Kenzie, Executive Director of Miami Downtown Development Authority: "Downtown has taken off in the last three to five years and has been the beneficiary of tremendous stimulation and an increase in finance, trade and tourism, because downtown feeds on all of those things, and it depends on the airport, it depends on banking and finance. And, in a two-year period, thanks to deregulation, look at the increase in international banks, and the growth of the international divisions of local banks..."

Alexander McWolfe, chief operating officer, Southeast Banking Corporation: "We are attracting to Miami a large body of what I would call technocrats. These are highly skilled people. They are coming to the accounting firms, the banks, the law firms, they are also trading people. They are a great resource draw. These people are coming because there is profit and because the center is growing.... ....What we are heading for is decision making in Miami. That is the day when you can structure a large loan to Brazil here, not there. That is the day when you can do a large shipping loan and you have a few law firms who can tie it together and accountants who understand overseas. That is the day when you can do foreign exchange in large transactions and multi-currencies, this is not here now, but in New York."

Lester Freeman, Vice-president Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce: "Because of drug related publicity, our image around the world is suffering terribly. Some of it is true. It isn't all true. I saw an article the other day describing Atlanta and Miami as perhaps the only recession proof areas—Atlanta because of its wisdom and Miami because we've got all the drugs....I think we have got to deal with our image again. I think Miamians are all pretty comfortable with the situation. The ones who are not have already left. Those of us who are here, and I sincerely believe this, are going to get rich and love each other...."

Richard Judy, Aviation Director of Dade County: "We are incredibly ripe for sophisticated manufacturing, but one major problem is we do not have adequate manpower....I am talking about vocational training...you can't have it two ways, you can't have a 'right to work state' and expect pockets of trained machinists....You have got to choose if you want a right to work state. Go up to Ohio, go up to Illinois, go up to some of those intense labor states but you know what goes with it...I tell them accept this reality, that they are going into a 'right to work state'....You have the Cubans, who are the most trainable. We know that and point that out...."

For a dozen years, Liberty City has been laying quietly at the heel of the "Global Gateway". Multinational and international banks and traders rushed into Miami to set up shop. They brought with them four billion dollars a year in import-export business with 20 Latin American countries. It didn't take long to see that manufacturers



Nate Jackson—"The thing that hurt me is you go away, fight for your country and you've got nothing....You have to live it to really understand it...but it's no different for the poor White. They're getting pushed out."

could be convinced to come to Miami before they went to Mexico or Taiwan. When it comes right down to it, all three places have the same thing to offer; cheap, non-union labor. By 1978, 60 percent of the families in Liberty City lived on less than $10,000 a year.

The Iron Heel

Nate Jackson has been watching the Global Gateway from the heel as far back as he can remember. Jackson, a worker for the city, talked at length about survival in Miami.

"It's a thing of getting a job to survive. I've been here all my life. I hate to say it but there are people here who won't hire you if you don't speak Spanish. If you don't speak Spanish you won't make it here. A friend of mine works at a bank. She knows she's going to lose her job. You come to work one day and your new supervisor is Cuban. She's slowly getting squeezed out and there is nothing she can do about it. I've been here. The thing that hurt me is you go away, you fight for your country, and you've got nothing."

But the problem doesn't start or end with half a million "trainable" Cubans. Miami's decision to "contain and starve" the oppressed majority is carried through by each agency of the government including the police. Jackson continued, "You can only take so much. You can't get justice. I've been harrassed by the police. I'm a mechanic. I work on cars. My car was jacked up on the street and I went away for a few minutes for parts. I usually ask my mother to watch the car. When I came back there are 10 or 15 cops in half a dozen squad cars. They want everybody around to pull out registrations and they lined everybody up. You have to live it to really understand it. Deep down inside, it really hurts me. But it's no different for the poor White. They're getting pushed out. I asked my foreman where he's going. He said poor Whites are moving to the central part of the state. I got nothing against Cubans, but this is what is happening to Black Americans and White Americans down here—they're getting pushed out."

Mrs. Thomas—"Honey, believe me, it ain't over yet. I guarantee you that shit is going to hit the fan. Only it's going to be in the high rent districts this time. Miami Shores, Key Biscayne, Coral Gables. And it won't be the business districts that get burnt out this time. It'll be the homes."

Jackson's neighbors next door, the Thomases, have lived there for seven years. R.J. Thomas drives a tractor trailer. Mrs. Thomas stopped working in her yard for a few minutes to explain the problem. "The rents are outrageous. My friend has a one-bedroom place and her rent just went up to three hundred a month. Everything is being turned into condominiums. Young kids today don't have a chance as far as buying a home. My girls couldn't do it. They can't afford it. They couldn't even afford to live alone. But expensive housing isn't the only problem. They (Miami officials) better worry about the rest of them, not just the Blacks, young Whites could riot here. All they do all summer is be out on the streets. This area is unincorporated (governed by county, not in any city within the county). It has nothing. No streetlights, no sidewalks, no summer recreation.

"Honey, believe me, it ain't over yet. I guarantee you the shit is going to hit the fan. Only it's going to be in the high rent districts this time, Miami Shore, Key Biscayne, Coral Gables. And it won't be the business districts that get burnt out this time. It'll be the homes."□

The Cubans...

MIAMI – The tiny two-bedroom house sits back a few yards from the road. Inside Adrian Barrego talks about his life in Miami.

"When we came here in 1962 my father got a job in an air conditioning plant. He made $45 a week as a head mechanic. There was four of us that he was supporting and it was tough."

Barrego works now with his father's small air conditioning repair business at the south end of Miami Beach. But that's a business with little future today. "Room air conditioners are being phased out. Central air conditioning is replacing it. We can't just hop from one to the other. You have to go to school to get a license. It takes a long time. Right now, we're putting all our time into the business so we can just survive. The thousands of new condominium units that are going up will have central air conditioning. That's why the rents have gone up so high. They've taken 30 percent of the rental off the market for condominiums and they aren't building any new apartments. The supply goes down and the need increases. I've been in efficiency apartments in Miami Beach that rent for $250 a month and were filthy.

"During the riots, it was pretty tense here. You could ride down I-95 (North-South Expressway) look to the west, the whole sky was smoke. Every few blocks, there were eight or ten fires at a time. I was pretty close. I have my wife and daughter to think about and they were scared. I thought the first and second nights were legitimate. But the third night I figure people were starting to get greedy."

Living on the edge of the ghetto for $500 a month, working in a family business that there won't be a use for five years from now, Adrian Barrego has never had the time or the opportunity to taste the fruits of luxury that were granted to the Cuban business and professional people who left their home to come to America. He makes it clear that there is a distinction between his family and the 100,000 Cubans who came to America this spring.

Adrian Barrego never had the time or opportunity to taste the luxuries granted to the Cuban business class.

"There is a difference between the Cubans that are coming now and us. When we came it was because we didn't like Castro or his ideals. We left pretty early. The people that are coming now stayed there for [illegible]ty years. They started to see the good things they couldn't buy in Cuba. That's why they came."

Cuban born Maria De Los Angeles Torres outlined the facts behind the recent Cuban immigration to the United States for KEEP STRONG, "Cuba is still an underdeveloped country and although there is education and medical care, it doesn't have the kind of consumer trinkets that you have here in the United States. Especially this year, the Cuban economy is having certain problems. A virus fell on the entire tobacco crop in the Caribbean. The cost of petroleum has gone up, and Cuba, because of the U.S. blockade, still has to import. The things that they import have really gone up because of transportation costs. So these people are coming here basically looking for a higher standard of living.

"The other thing which is a misconception is that this is something that has happened all of a sudden in Cuba. There have been people waiting for their visas from the United States, some of them for two or three years and some of them back to 1973. The U.S. immigration policy towards Cuba is used to try to destroy the Cuban government. In the last few years, all these people had permission to leave Cuba, but the United States would not take them. It created a bottleneck of people in Cuba that were not interested in staying there. The U.S. immigration policy has been used to create discontent or to maintain discontent within Cuba, by not letting these people come to the United States. It's been the Cuban community here that has demanded that the U.S. accept these people because we feel the U.S. does have a responsibility to the Cuban immigrants. For twenty years the government here has only let the immigrants in when it wants to make some kind of point about what is going on in Cuba."

Maria De Los Angeles Torres is on the National Committee of the Antonio Maceo Brigade, an organization of young Cubans living outside of Cuba. □

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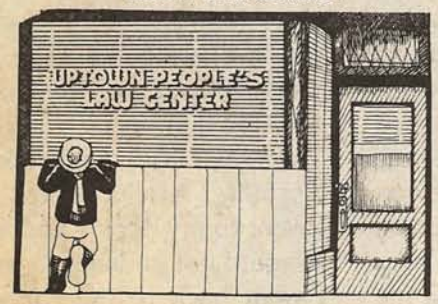

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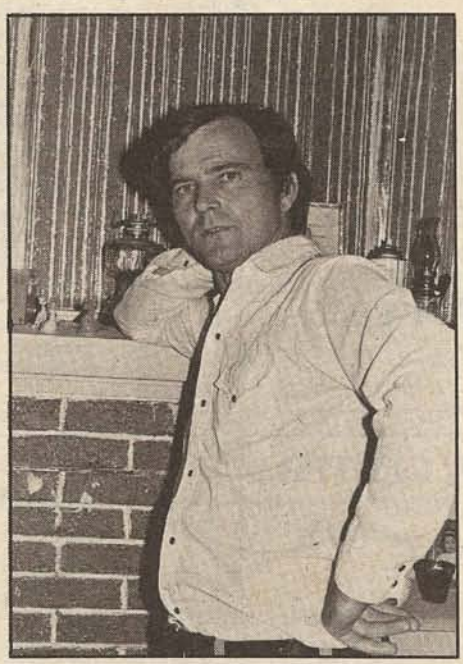
Chicago Area Black Lung Association Report

Congress Ready To Axe Safety Inspections At 90 Percent Of U.S. Workplaces

"Now the mine owners are supposed to control the dust and make the mines safe, but they don't. It doesn't matter to them if it's not safe, just as long as they get the coal out. They don't want to take the time to make them safe. It's cheaper to pay a fine. I think they ought to send out federal inspectors to go and check on these mines and make them safe. They should go and stay in the mines one day and see how they control the dust—because they don't."

Chicago Area Black Lung Association (CABLA) member, Ron Cheney, is one of the more than two million workers who will be injured on the job this year—another 14,000 workers will die.

In 1970, the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) was established by Congress to set up and enforce strict health and safety standards to prevent accidents and deaths in the workplace. From its beginning, OSHA has been undermined by big business, with the help of Congress, the courts and the White House. It has been overburdened by paperwork, understaffed and underfunded. While there are 6,000 fish and game wardens in the nation, there are only 3,000 OSHA inspectors.



CABLA member Ron Cheney, injured twice in the coal mines. More than two million workers will be injured on-the-job this year—another 14,000 will die.

Cheney continues, "The first time I got hurt in the mines was in March, 1978. I was working at the Brush Fork Coal Company, which was a small truck mine that was leased from a big coal company. There were 12 men working there. I was running a scoop (a large machine that picks up coal). I asked the boss if I could go back and work on the hallway, because there were big holes in it and I wanted to fix the holes. He said there was no reason to fix them and we were getting too much overtime, anyway. So I hit one of the holes and it threw me out of the scoop and I landed on it, on my back. It would not have happened if he had let me fix the holes like I wanted to.

"After the accident they brought me out of the mine and sent me to the emergency room. They checked my back and said there wasn't anything wrong but they told me to go to my family doctor. I did not have one, but my dad introduced me to a doctor. He sent me to Lexington and they took x-rays and found I had a slipped disc. I went back to my boss and he turned in an accident report. We also had a few words about him not letting me fix the holes.

"Then I filed for compensation. I kept waiting around and I had no place for my family to stay and it was bothering me. The Compensation Board told me to come in because they were ready to settle. They gave me $10,000 for a partial disability. After I cashed the check I went to my doctor and he told me I should not go back to work at all. I went back to the Compensation Board, but they said it was too late because I already had signed the papers for partial disability. So my doctor gave me a release to go back to work.

Chicago Area Black Lung Association Report

"In January, 1980, I went to work at Nationwide Minerals, another truck mine that was leased from a big company. There were 15 men working there. I worked for them for three months before I had my second accident.

"My regular job was shooting coal. However one morning the boss wanted to keep the state mine inspectors from going into the mines so they made us clean up outside. The boss said that the inspectors could not go into the mine, unless we were working in the mine.

"The inspectors were there, because one boy at Nationwide had just got hurt in the mines. A piece of rock fell on him because it wasn't bolted. The inspectors had told the boss to keep the mine closed until they made it safe. They had not done it, so they did not want the mine inspectors to find out.

"They had us clean up outside. There was this scoop which had wheels on it and weighed about 1,500 pounds. The boss told four of us to pick it up and put it on the truck. I told the boss that my back was already hurt from picking up other stuff and he said, 'You move it or you can go home.' Well, I went home all right. We were lifting it up on the truck and the boy who was helping me dropped his side and it put all the pressure on me and it pulled my back out of place.

"Before I had the accident the boss had told us that he did not have any insurance because he could not afford it. However, I found out from the Compensation Board that he did have insurance. I had the accident on Thursday and he said he would turn in the accident report on Monday. I waited until Monday but he didn't do it. Then he told me he would meet me in front of the Compensation Board on Tuesday evening, but he never showed up. I came here to Chicago and about three weeks later I went down to Kentucky, but he still had not filed the accident report."

SNT

Also known as Senate Bill 2153, it would exempt 90 percent of the nation's workplaces from OSHA safety inspections.

Now, Senator Richard Schweiker (R-PA) has introduced a bill called the OSHA Improvement Act of 1980. Also known as Senate Bill 2153, it would exempt 90 percent of the nation's workplaces from OSHA safety inspections. Companies with good safety records (i.e. few reported accidents) would be exempt. Of course, OSHA's paperwork would be increased in order to figure out which companies are exempt. S.B. 2153 would change OSHA's function from accident prevention to accident investigation. OSHA inspectors would only be allowed to inspect the direct cause of a serious accident or death and would not be allowed to inspect the plant for other hazards.

Under the current law, OSHA must make an inspection in response to a worker complaint of a safety hazard. However, under S.B. 2153, if a worker complained about a hazard at an exempt plant, OSHA could just ask the company if the safety problem had been corrected. Also companies could set up "safety advisory committees," which would have no legal power, and would replace OSHA's inspection role. Fines for companies with their own safety committees would be reduced.

Schweiker introduced the bill only two months after American Olean Tile was cited by OSHA for exposing workers to dangerous levels of lead and noise. Senator Schweiker and his family own at least $330,000 worth of common stock in this company. □

City Scope

Rummage sale success

The Heart of Uptown Coalition (HOUC) held its first rummage sale May 30, 31 and June 1. Edweana Brock, who was in charge of the sale said, "We thought it was a tremendous success. Our goal was to raise $500 for the general fund of the HOUC and we did it. We would like to thank all the ladies who sorted the clothes, household items, books and furniture, the men who lent us their pick-up trucks and the youth who sorted and sold. We'd also like to thank everyone who donated and who bought.

"The most important part of the sale was the high-quality items we offered at low prices to the people of Uptown."

The "Duke" of Sheridan Rd.

By the time the Gutman brothers turned the building at Sheridan and Buena over to speculator Terry Duke, only a shell was left. For over a dozen years, they collected rents from the 40 unit building each month, hoarded their money and left the building to fall apart.

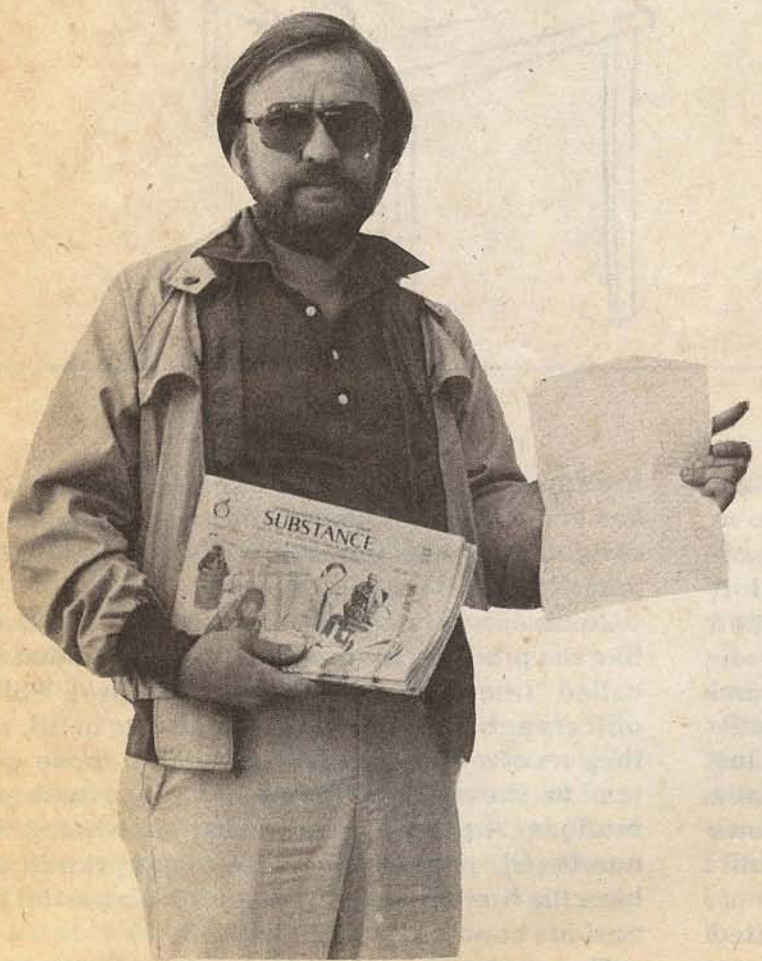
In the fall of 1978, Duke presented himself to the few families who remained, as the new owner. He collected rents for a couple of months and then told the families to move. When they didn't go fast enough (they fought for months to keep their homes), Duke sent thugs to the building at night to smash the windows. Ten foot piles of garbage collected behind the building and in the halls. Fires started to erupt and burn every night. Soon the building was empty.

Several weeks ago, after the rehab work was completed, Duke, by now a respectable real estate man, hung a sign out front: "For Rent – 2 bedrooms – $525 a month." The classified section of the Sunday Tribune carries the ad. Who is going to rent a ghetto apartment for $500 a month? Nobody, if we can help it, Terry.

Let the city beware

Heart of Uptown Coalition members, in force, attended the city's Community Development hearing at the Radisson Hotel on May 29. They came in buses to remind city officials once again that thousands of people are watching their handling of federal funds slated for housing and community development.

Heart of Uptown Coalition Executive Director, Jack Hart, delivered the Coalition's statement and warned, "Miami is miles away as the crow flies, but only seconds away as oppression cries....We are being systematically removed from our communities and have no place to go. If the city does not pay heed to the hundreds of thousands of desperate people in its predominantly poor communities, it will pay a cost that no amount of community development dollars can repay."



Busted

The man in the picture is Jerry Simonsen, a substitute high school teacher. He is also circulation manager for *Substance,* the newspaper of Substitutes (Teachers) United For Better Schools.

Jerry was hard at work on February 1, at Mason Elementary School. He was distributing *Substance* to teachers who were there Saturday morning to pick up their long awaited paychecks. He kept a Federal Court order in his pocket that said he had a right to pass them out.

A school official, District Superintendent Bryants, approached Simonsen and told him to stop passing out the newspapers. Jerry told Bryants that he was within his rights and had a Federal Court order to prove it. Bryants said that didn't mean anything to him and if Simonsen didn't stop he was going to call the police. Jerry protested and Bryant got a cop.

Jerry figured the cop would understand the meaning of a Federal Court order. No way. The cop told Jerry he was on private property and a Federal Court order did not affect him. Jerry laughed. The cop charged him with disturbing the peace and took him to jail. Jerry appears in Circuit Court on July 7.

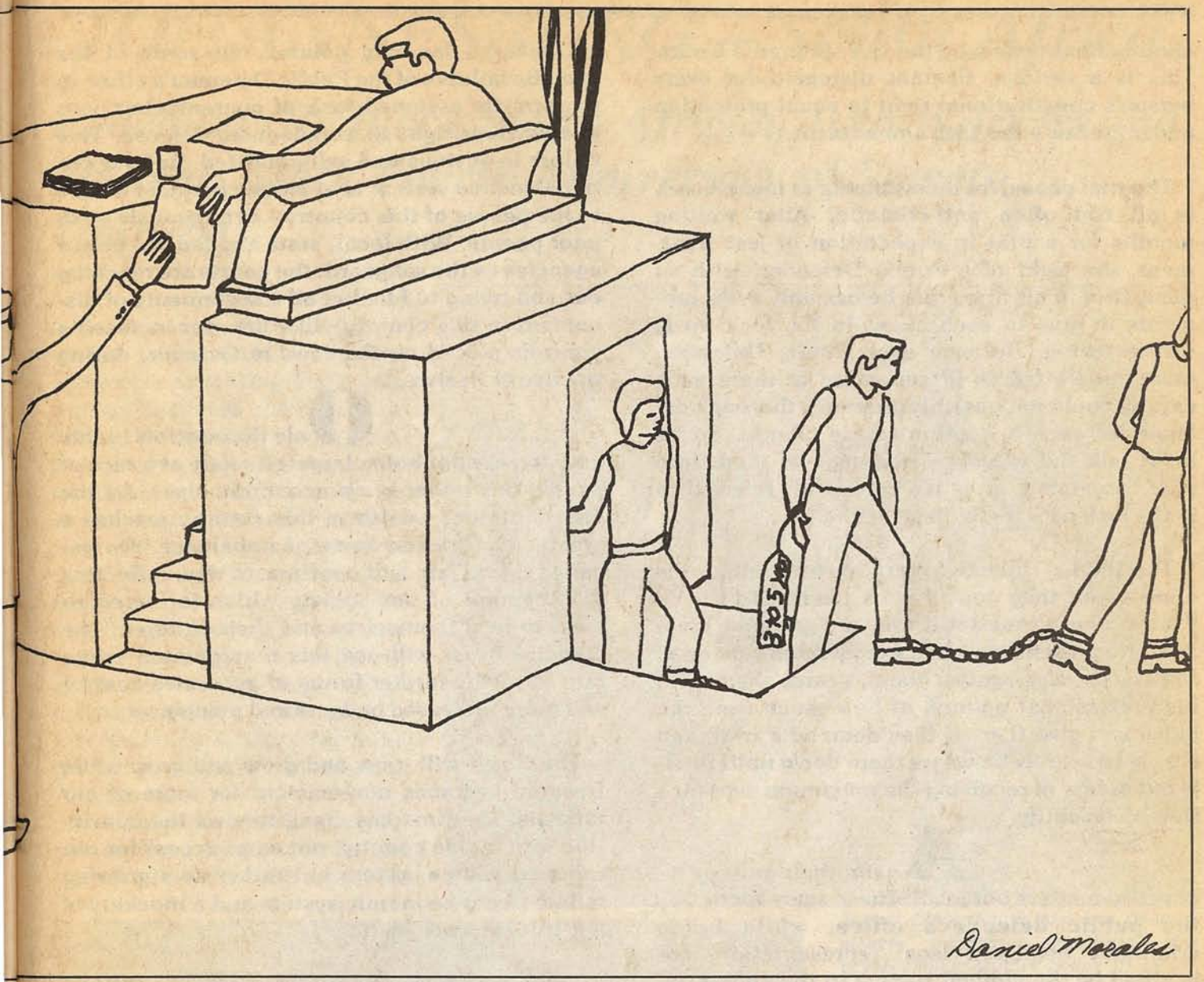
The Judicial Beast

By Robbie Ramsey

The so-called criminal justice system in this country, which I refer to as the Judicial Beast, has grown to gigantic proportions, exceeding by far the purpose for which it was created. Through the levying of fines and ever-increasing tax-supported budgets the Judicial Beast swells and eats its way deeper and deeper into every segment of society. The justification for increased budgets each year is the imprisonment of more and more of our citizens at a higher and higher cost, while the Beast grows through the addition of more judges, police officers, prison guards, parole officers, probation officers, etc. New prisons are being constructed daily, prisons that will soon be filled to overflowing capacity with more of our citizens. Sadly, it has become profitable for one segment of our society to imprison another. This is deplorable, it is parasitic and it must be stopped.

Justice in this country has become too much like the products we produce in our factories. So-called "free enterprise" is out of control. Police officers actually have quotas of arrests to fill, and they receive bonuses for surpassing those quotas, in the form of commendations and promotions. A person under arrest after being first numbered, photographed and fingerprinted will have his first opportunity to purchase partial justice, his bond will be set.

Those who can afford to purchase partial jus-



tice are freed on bond to await trial, while those who are just as innocent until proven guilty but can't afford to pay must await trial in jail. A harsh judgement has at this point already been made. The Judicial Beast has already determined who can afford a shot at justice and who can't.

The final outcome is in little doubt, which is shown in the extremely lower conviction rate of those out on bond compared with those who must await trial in jail. Those who cannot afford to post bond will undoubtedly not be able to afford an attorney either, so their defense will, in most cases, be left in the hands of a Public Defender.

A Public Defender is usually someone newly out of law school who has not acquired the experience and/or connections for a better paying job with more status. Even those who may desire to provide quality representation quickly learn that even if they were experienced and had a staff and resources they could not do a thorough job. At the same time persons able to afford bond will be defended by the best attorney that their money can buy. (It should also be pointed out that the Public Defender's Office is only empowered to appeal a case to the State Supreme Court, thereby denying people who can't afford a private attorney access to Federal Appellate Courts – in-

cluding final review by the U.S. Supreme Court. This is a serious, flagrant disregard for every person's constitutional right to equal protection under the law – the 14th amendment.)

The trial phase, for those unable to make bond, is all too often anti-climatic. After waiting months for a trial in expectation of just treatment, the sight of a Public Defender, with so many files in his arms that he has only a few moments to give to each client in the lock up is disheartening. Because each Public Defender, must handle ten to fifteen cases or more each day, he could not possibly prepare a thorough defense for even a fraction of his clients. So he must talk the biggest percentage of them into plea bargaining, or as it's commonly referred to in the lock up – "Let's Make A Deal."

The Public Defender starts out by telling his clients that they don't have a chance to win in trial; it doesn't matter if they are guilty or innocent. He presents an often exaggerated version of the state's case against them, scares them with his professional opinion of how much time the judge will give them if they demand a trial, and slowly but surely he wears them down until finally out of fear of receiving the maximum sentence they plead guilty.

Again, their guilt or innocence matters not at all. These scare tactics by the public defender's office, while being criminally negligent legal representation, are justified by the judicial system in the amount of dollars and time saved by this non-trial as compared to the expense of a trial for each defendant. As in industrial production, cost efficiency has become the major objective of our courts. Justice is not being served. A product has simply been sold or withheld for lack of payment.

The Judicial Beast by now admits to the inadequacies of the Public Defender's system, but it will only use this admission to justify further requests for increased budgets and additional manpower. In reality, it is a case of asking for more tax dollars to pump into a system that each year reaches to control the lives of more citizens through imprisonment or one of the more subtle forms of control: parole, probation, supervision, etc.

I have so far only pointed out some of the specific failures of the Public Defender's office to perform its assigned task of guaranteeing poor people their right to an adequate defense. This failure is obvious and self-admitted. But our criminal justice system is in fact a complete failure to the people of this country – outrageously so to poor people. With local, state and federal police agencies as the vanguard, the courts are reaching out and trying to blanket all the elements of discontent in this country – like the ever increasing controls placed on the Jews in Germany during the rise of Nazism.

Only the controls in this country, are not being targeted solely at a race of people but rather at an economic class. As the distribution of wealth in this country reaches a greater and greater state of imbalance, the so-called crime rate will continue to rise, reflecting the segment of our society which is forced to steal to feed themselves and their children. The Judicial Beast will use this manipulated crime rate to justify further forms of excessive control and more increased budgets and manpower.

The Beast will grow and grow and grow while freedom becomes non-existent for more of our citizens. The time has come to view the conviction rate in this country, not as a success for our criminal justice system but rather as a growing failure of our economic system and a mockery of any true sense of Justice.

There are at present approximately 21 million poor people in this country, and our ranks are swelling each day as unemployment and inflation gather speed. Many moderate income and middle class families of today will be engulfed as the distribution of wealth becomes more and more concentrated at the top, in the hands of a few. With this in mind, it is time not only for the 21 million poor people in this country who already are hunted by the Judicial Beast but for all people of this nation to demand public controls over the Judicial System. It is the right of every American citizen to control his own destiny and not to be manipulated by the economic policies of industry and big business and eventually be forced into the control of a judicial system that long ago quit serving the people and began feeding on us. □

JOHANNESBURG—South Africa

Rebellions By Black South African Auto Workers and Students Mark Fourth Anniversary of Soweto Uprising

South African police shot and killed more than 50 Black workers and wounded more than 350 people as striking Black auto workers continued their mass resistance to the White minority-controlled government's policy of apartheid. Apartheid is the South African government's official system of racial separation where the country's White minority—2 million people—maintains control over the country's majority—more than 17.4 million Black people. South Africa's apartheid system means separate and inferior schools, hospitals and other facilities and lower pay for Black South Africans.

Demonstrations in mid-June began in Cape Town suburbs and spread to Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage—South Africa's main industrial center. More than 7,000 Black auto workers walked off their jobs at major U.S. and European automobile assembly plants, including those of Ford, GM and Volkswagon. The striking workers were demanding an end to racial discrimination and low wages. Black workers want a wage increase from $1.35 an hour to $3.75 an hour. Today a Black South African earns one-sixth that of a White worker.

Defense and Aid

Popperfoto

Above: Black South Africans demonstrate against apartheid—the government's official policy of racial separation. Left: Soweto worker dies at hands of mob 'backlash' instigated by police.

The strikes and demonstrations

marked the fourth anniversary of the 1976 Soweto uprising. Soweto is a Black town outside Johannesburg (South Africa's capital), where South African police shot and killed more than 600 students on June 16, 1976. The Soweto rebellion was organized and led by hundreds of unarmed school children, protesting the government's policy of teaching Afrikaans in secondary schools. Afrikaans is the official language of the Europeans living in South Africa. The Soweto rebellion was the largest demonstration ever held against apartheid in South Africa.

South African students at Langa High School outlined the goals of the resistance movement against apartheid and continued police repression in a statement last summer:

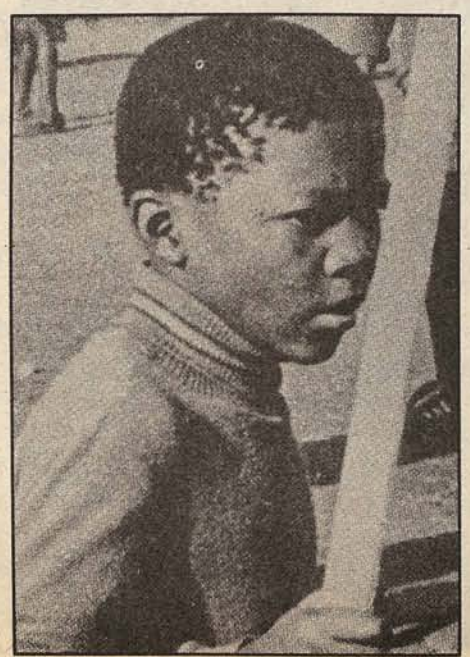
"We want our fellow students who have been detained to be released regardless of color. Equal jobs, equal pay, free education. We will never attend classes unless these demands are fulfilled. The South African government will experience daily rioting if these demands are not fulfilled."

Despite the South African government's use of brutal police force to crush the rebellions, reports from South Africa indicate that the struggle for independence is growing. One force in "boosting" the consciousness of the people has been the success of independence movements in neighboring African countries such as Angola, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. Another reason is the growing solidarity between Black workers and coloured workers. In South Africa a "coloured" person is someone of a mixed race. While Black unemployment is more than 2 million, there are reports of growing unemployment among coloureds and even White workers.

A recent report, "South Africa Explodes," points out that for years, U.S. companies which own and control South African factories, have tried to divide Black and coloured workers, but recently this policy has been met with resistance. "It has always been the policy that coloureds should be treated preferentially, with officially recognized trade unions and skilled industrial jobs." But demonstrations involving Black and coloured workers have "effectively destroyed the myth that by dividing the racial groupings, the White government could divide the loyalties of Black workers.

Camera Press

More than 15,000 unarmed Soweto schoolchildren joined the June 16, 1976 uprising to protest the forced teaching of Afrikaans in secondary schools. South African police murdered hundreds and crippled and maimed thousands in the largest demonstration against apartheid in South Africa's history.



Today, the apartheid South African government continues to receive its greatest support from the U.S. and U.S. multinational corporations. U.S. corporations, including GM, Ford, Mobil, Caltex, Firestone, Chrysler and ITT control more than 50 percent of all investments in the country. In 1976, the year of the Soweto rebellion, U.S. banks made new loans of more than $700 million to the South African government. A growing campaign in the United States has been aimed at getting state laws passed making it illegal for banks holding state funds to make loans to South Africa or companies doing business in South Africa. □

Norrebro Battles For Its Playground

For seven years the people of Norrebro, Copenhagen built it themselves so their children could play there. But it stood in the way of the city's plan to wipe out this old, but proud neighborhood. Twice the police flattened it and twice the people rebuilt it. Only a third massive and brutal police assault destroyed the Children's Playground.

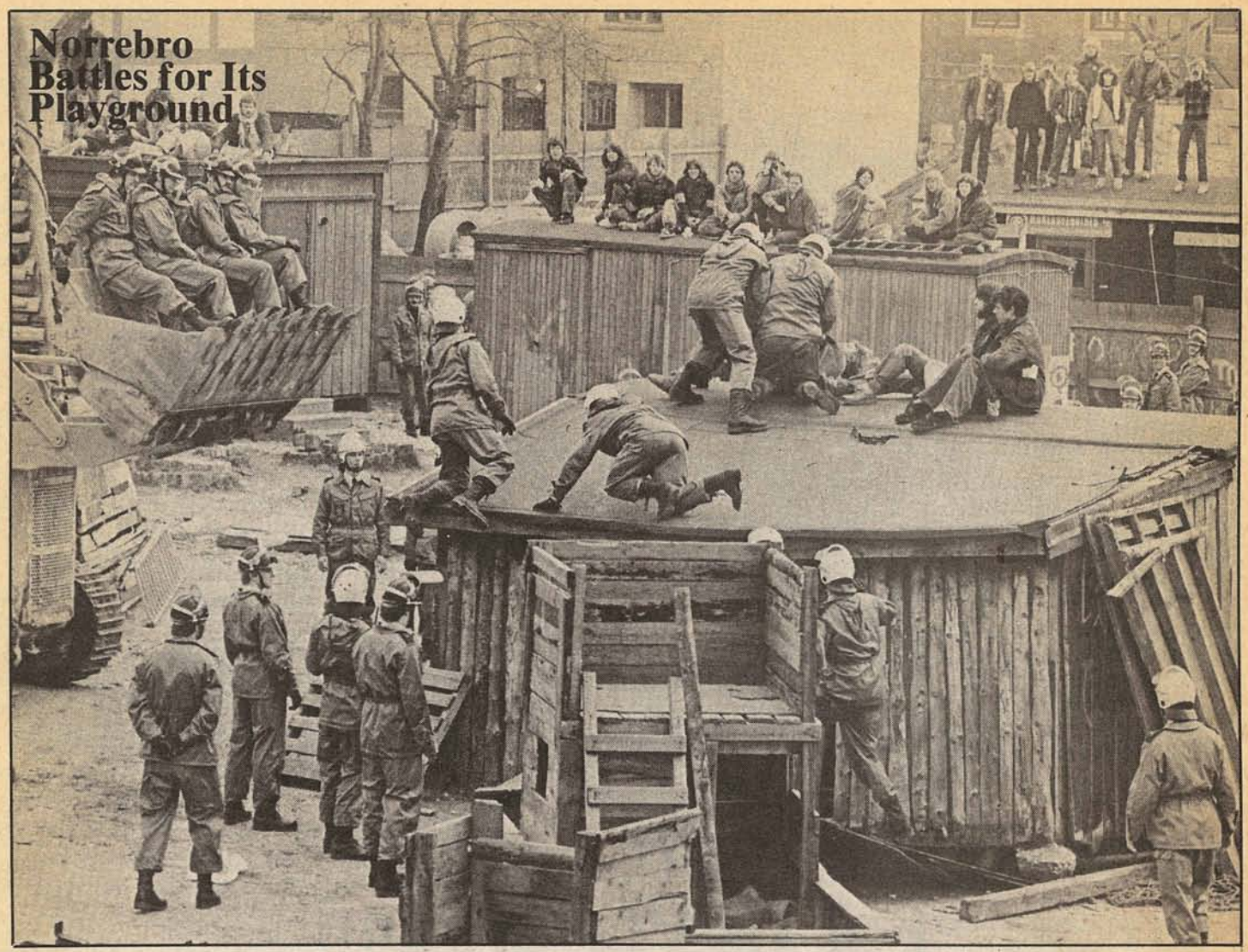
COPENHAGEN, Denmark – No wonder Norrebro is called the Black Square. Not even a gangway separates the eighty year old, five and six story tenements surrounding each block. Inside are dozens of tiny, two-room flats. Two-thirds of the flats have no toilets, four-fifths have no baths.

Ten years ago the city planned to reduce the Black Square's overcrowding. Subsidized housing in larger, more modern apartments was promised those who would be displaced. But before long the city's real intentions became clear. Blocks with the best housing were completely leveled while some of the worst buildings were left standing. Rents in suburban subsidized housing soared to ten times the average Norrebro rent as the government subsidies were reduced year by year. Replacement housing in Norrebro was to be even more expensive.

But Norrebro was not an easy target for the city. Squatters took over vacant buildings. An abandoned factory was occupied and turned into a community center. Other vacant buildings became kindergartens.

On June 16, 1973, a truck laden with lumber and tools, rolled into a vacant lot where hundreds were partying. An announcement was made over the loudspeaker: "We are going to build a playground." By 1980, the Children's Playground would become the scene of Norrebro's most valiant resistance. □

Norrebro Battles for Its Playground



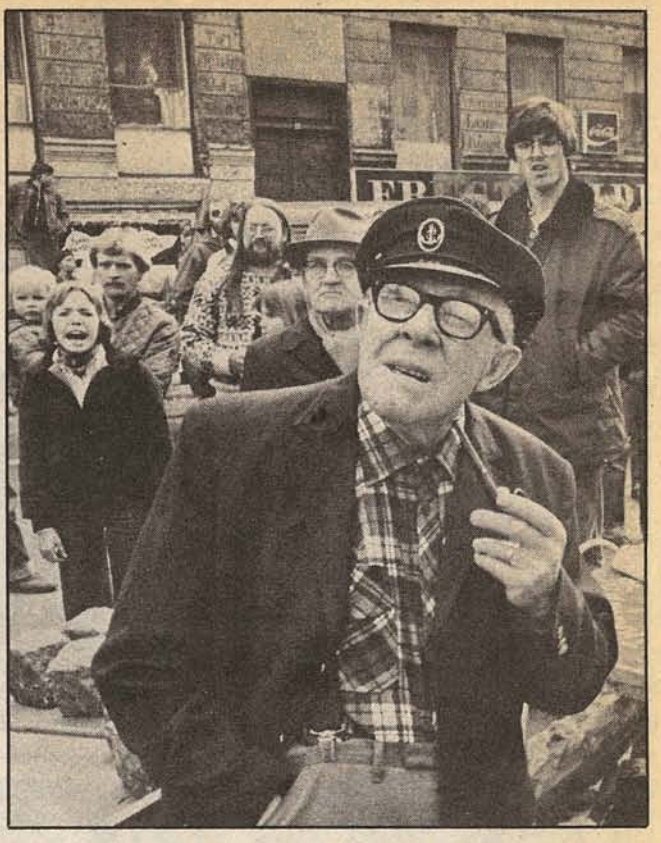
On March 24, 1980, four hundred pickets turned away construction workers who came to move the Children's Playground to one half the block it occupied. Construction on expensive housing was to start April 1st. When 500 police did the job a month later, the community returned the facilities to their original locations within hours.

. . . Not Even in World War II

"I have never seen anything like it, not even in World War II," commented Britta Jensen, a 60 year-old unemployed tobacco worker. From her second floor apartment on Blagards Street, in Norrebro, Mrs. Jensen saw and felt the terror of the police assault on the Children's Playground.

"They have written and said much in the paper about professional troublemakers that started it. The only organized troublemakers we have seen at Norrebro under the latest civil war-like conditions were the police. Without warning, 30 battle-dressed policemen came running down through Blagards Street, swinging at people with their clubs right and left.

"The majority of the residents in Norrebro think that the playground should stay where it is. I agree with this. And when the city did not even hold to what they had promised—namely that only one half of the playground should be taken down—then I understand that people react."



Photos by 2Maj Arkiv & Foto

Again the playground was rebuilt. Barricades were re-established, leaving the entire Black Square in the people's hands. Awaiting a special city council meeting, residents made a deal with the police to open the barricades for fire trucks and ambulances. But behind their backs the mayor told the police, "It's up to you to clear the area." On May 3rd, 2,000 club-wielding police did just that. Street fighting spread through the entire quarter and lasted into the night. On May 5th, 15,000 residents and supporters marched on the city council, but still the Children's Playground was lost.

"On April 29, they came with 1,000 police. Now there were no compromises. They surrounded the entire block and smashed the whole playground. Several thousand people filled the streets. We went out to the major streets, took buses and set them across the streets. Traffic in the whole center of Copenhagen was stopped. The police were confused. They could not leave the playground until all their trucks were loaded. When the police went to clear the streets, the people went back to the playground."—Neils Frandsen, Norrebro activist.

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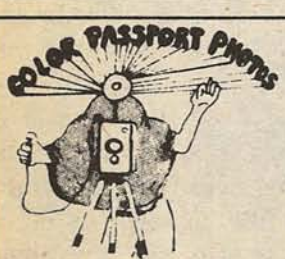

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Unemployment Insurance
— Persistence Wins Benefits —

Q: Yesterday my boss told me that he was letting me go. I've had a few jobs over the last couple of years — mainly factory jobs around Chicago. I want to find another job — I have a family to support — but there just don't seem to be many jobs available. I've heard about unemployment insurance, but don't really understand how it works. Will I be able to get some money while I look for another job?

A: The unemployment insurance program was set up by the government for people who have lost their jobs or who have no job. Like other government programs you must put up with the hassles of government red-tape and bureaucracy to receive any benefits. However, if you are determined, persistent and offer no more information than is requested you will get the benefits that you are entitled to.

TO APPLY

Apply At The Unemployment Insurance Office Nearest You. Bring:

- a Social Security card
- name and address of your last employer
- check stubs, W-2 forms, or other evidence of previous earnings

In order to be eligible you cannot be receiving any sick pay or vacation pay. You must be looking for work and keep a record of all the places you go to look for jobs. Also, you have to have earned at least $1,000 in the last 15 months.

If you meet the eligibility requirements you will receive 50 percent of your previous salary each week up to a maximum of $135 if you are single, or up to $177 if you have a family.

BENEFITS

The first check is supposed to come a week after you apply if you were laid off. However, most people wait at least three weeks before their checks start coming. If you were fired from your job "for a good reason" you will have to wait an extra six weeks. If you quit you will have to wait an extra eight weeks.

After they determine that you are eligible you will receive an identification card with a date and time on it. You must report to the Illinois State Job Service at that time, where you will be shown how to check the job listings for your type of work. You are supposed to go once a month to check these listings, but don't expect much.

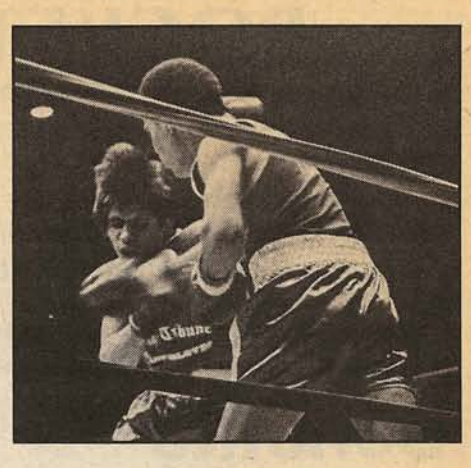
Once you start getting your checks, you will have to send a form in every two weeks, listing five places you contacted looking for a job. Phone calls are one way to check out a possible employer. The government will provide unemployment benefits up to six months. Benefits were recently extended for an additional 13 weeks. That is, if your six month payment runs out July 1, 1980 you will be eligible for an additional 13 weeks because of the soaring unemployment rate.

DENIAL AND APPEAL

If you are denied benefits for any reason, you have the right to appeal. The first appeal is to the claims adjudicator. You can bring witnesses and an attorney to the hearing which is held at the neighborhood unemployment insurance office. If the adjudicator denies your claim you can appeal to a referee within one week. After that, you can appeal to the Board of Review whose members are selected by the governor. Finally, you can appeal to a judge of the Cook County Circuit Court. There is no court costs for your appeals.

We must stress that you have a right to these benefits. The president, the Congress, big business and the banks have deliberately thrown this country into a recession with massive unemployment in order to cool off inflation. Without such programs as unemployment insurance and public aid the majority of Americans would not be able to survive. This would create widespread social discontent and those who represent the interests of the rich and powerful in government would not be in business for too much longer. As it is now many government programs are meager and barely allow a family to survive. Therefore, we urge you to get ALL you are entitled to. □

Boxing Rhythms



By Johnny Lira

In this issue of Keep Strong, Chicago's own Lightweight Boxing Champ, Johnny Lira begins a regular series on the fundamentals of boxing.

TRAINING, TRAINERS AND A GYM

Training should start out with a young man fighting in a good gym somewhat close to where he lives and just going and see how things are run from the beginning, how the facilities are set up, how the young men in boxing are taking to their training, how the coaches are reflecting, how the personalities are matching between the fighters and the trainers. So if they don't fall into the category of that certain gym, they could go on and look for another gym to work out at.

Once the young athlete finds the gym that he would like to work out at, the young man should really know what he's getting into. He should know that it's a very disciplined sport, the mind needs to be disciplined, his body needs to be disciplined, the trainer who he picks should be disciplined, and have good habits so he carries these habits on through his whole career.

There's more to it than just winning or losing. You're going into a bout and you're getting blows struck at you, your mind, your head, your body is taking a lot of punishment and without the right techniques and the right basic fundamentals from the start, you could really hurt yourself seriously.

YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT

I'm a firm believer in "you are what you eat." Whatever you put in your system is going to react on your whole physical being—your metabolism, the energy that your mind uses up, the energy which your body and muscles use up.

So if you put good, wholesome energy into your body, the results have to be good and wholesome. Energetic food is energetic reaction. If you think energetic, you act energetic and everything comes from there. If you eat sloppy food and grubby food and fatty food, you're going to be fatty and sloppy. So I mean it's just simple mathematics.

What's a good balanced diet that I've found? Good old-fashioned cooking that old mom used to make. Good, lean meats, a lot of fish, a lot of poultry, wheat bread, everything toasted, baked, boiled or broiled. Fruits and vegetables, fresh if possible, raw fruits, raw vegetables, very lightly cooked. Fresh fruit juices, plenty of water to cleanse you system out. A good vitamin, taken daily, exercise and relaxation.

WARMING UP

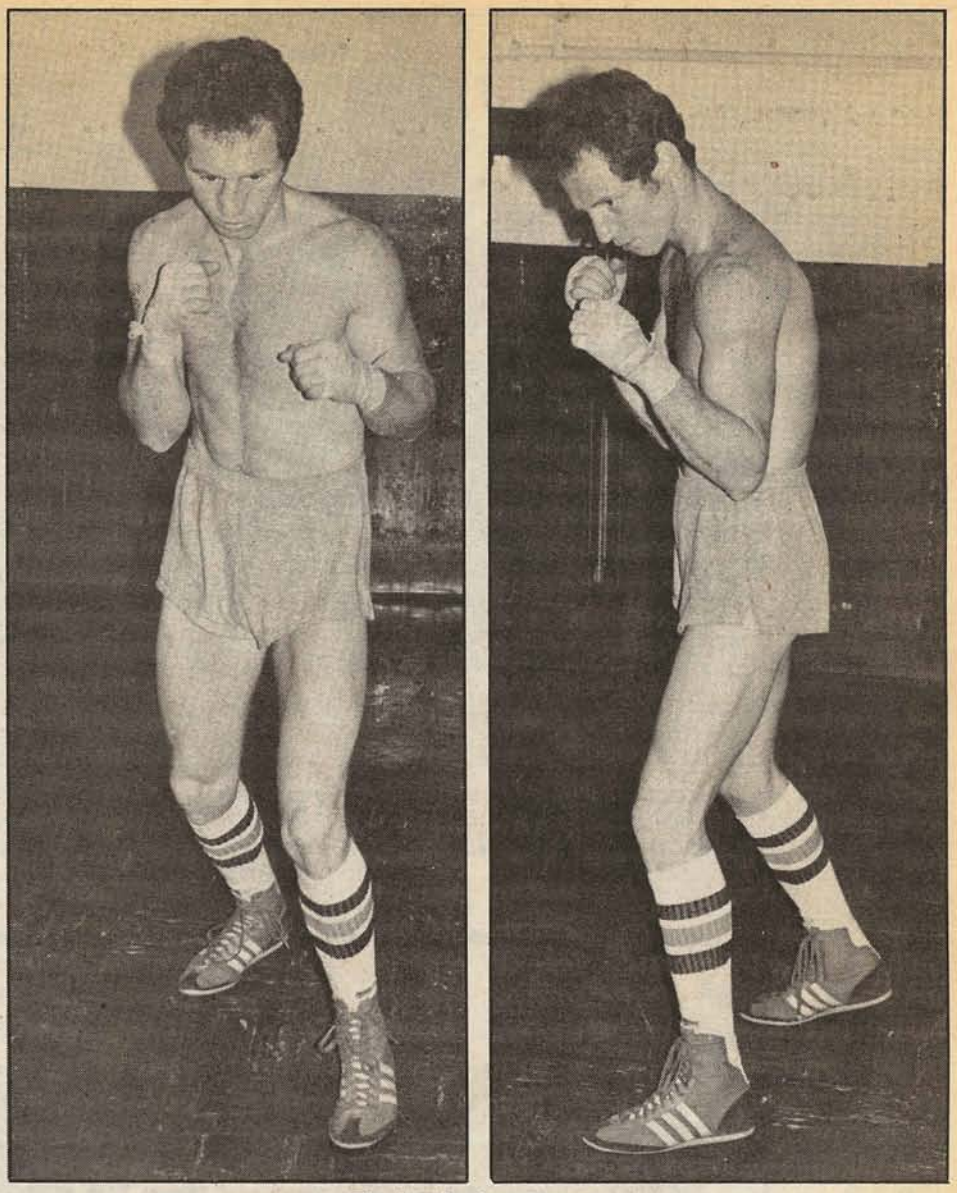
Any sport whatsoever or any physical activity should start out with a lot of stretching exercises, like you've seen basketball, baseball, karate men, boxers—we all kind of do the same exercises, stretching our muscles, warming them up, tuning them up, getting the toxic acids out of the system, getting the elasticity into the body, getting the stiffness, the slowness of the joints out of it and getting your mobility and warmed up and break in a light sweat.

You should start up in the gym with whatever your trainer thinks you should do that day. Starting out in boxing you shouldn't start out on your own, you should have a trainer. And your trainer should be aware of all these things. If he is not aware of these basic fundamental things, he isn't the trainer you want. Your trainer should be knowledgable in the way the body acts in a certain situation, because he must know your body just as well as you, so you can work as a team.

There are several different exercises that he would want you to do to warm you up for that certain day training. A training day may not necessarily be the same as another day training. But a generalization of the basic things that start out almost every day are your stretching exercises, jumping jacks, toe raises, touching your toes, neck movement, getting your muscles and your joints really limbered up, backward stretches, a lot of shadow boxing, jumping up and down, just really letting your body loose and freaking out and just getting everything as loose as could be.

THE STANCE

A beginning stance should start out with your feet a little more than shoulder length apart, your left foot about two feet in front of your right foot. You should have your chin down slightly, an arch to your body slightly, maybe an inch or two, your hands brought up directly straight from your side, not directly in front of your body and not with your elbows out, directly brought straight up to your side with your hands about chin-high, your shoulders relaxed.



The beginning stance.

Now once you have that position just about mastered, you start out with some in and out and side to side movement. You could switch out and in, side to side, with a rhythmic movement, just like a salsa beat or a soul beat or a disco beat, or the natural rhythm of your body—the way you happen to walk, that certain bounce about yourself. This is where your own certain style, or your own technique will develop around this, the in and out, side to side, side to side, out and in. And you throw your opponent off by moving all the time, setting him up for certain punches.

What we had originally meant by that in and out, side to side movement, getting back to that is in-step and out-step, side-step and aside-step. Just like in dancing, you don't stand in one place dancing, you're taking steps all over the dance floor. So that's why they have that square ring, you would be moving around in two or three steps, out two or three steps, to the side a step, maybe the other side two steps. Mix 'em up, maybe you would want to go two steps to one side and a step out, two steps in and two steps to the side. What you felt like doing in that particular moment when the punches were being thrown at you and that you wanted to maneuver the man into a certain position.

I dedicate the first of my series of boxing techniques to Julio Malindez who was one of my fighters and died unexpectedly by taking his own life. A young man who had everything to live for and didn't really understand what was happening in the world around him. I wish I could have had a little more time to spend with him and maybe that awful tragedy would never have happened. I dedicate all these things I do in this magazine to him, Julio Malindez. □

Four sets of real-life brothers play four sets of notorious brothers of the past in "The Long Riders." Left to right: Cole, James and Bobby Younger (DAVID, KEITH and ROBERT CARRADINE), Bob and Charley Ford (NICHOLAS and CHRISTOPHER GUEST), Ed and Clell Miller (DENNIS and RANDY QUAID) and Frank and Jesse James (STACY and JAMES KEACH).

The LONG RIDERS

"The Long Riders"
A United Artists film

Cole Younger	DAVID CARRADINE
Jim Younger	KEITH CARRADINE
Bob Younger	ROBERT CARRADINE
Jesse James	JAMES KEACH
Frank James	STACY KEACH
Ed Miller	DENNIS QUAID
Clell Miller	RANDY QUAID
Charlie Ford	CHRISTOPHER GUEST
Bob Ford	NICHOLAS GUEST
Mrs. Samuel	FRAN RYAN
Mr. Rixley	JAMES WHITMORE, JR.
Zee Mimms	SAVANNAH SMITH
Beth	AMY STRYKER
Annie Ralston	SHELBY LEVERINGTON
Belle Starr	PAMELA REED
Directed by	WALTER HILL
Produced by	TIM ZINNEMANN

The *Long Riders* is one of the best movies about people in a long time. Based on the life of Jesse James, the movie traces the rise and fall of the James and Younger brothers.

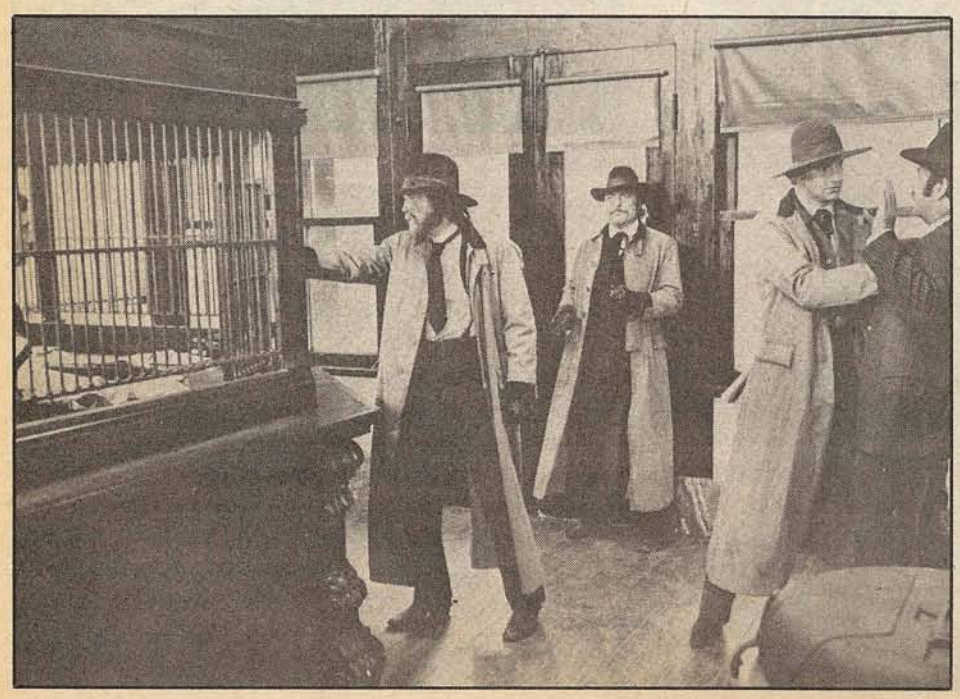
What makes this western so especially interesting is the "real life" quality given the characters. Jesse James is not the lonely fast-gun outlaw we usually see, but the son of a poor White Southern family. A family that is seeing its way of life destroyed by Northern industry moving into the South after the Civil War.

The James and Younger brothers rob banks and trains for a living. It is all that has been left them by the North. They have the same worries, concerns and family problems as everyone else in Missouri, and time after time, the love and concern of their friends and neighbors prevents them from being caught.

The very first scene of the movie shows the relationship the brothers feel for the people. When Ed Miller needlessly kills a bank clerk during a robbery, he is kicked out of the gang by the remaining James

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: The last ride of the Younger—James gang as they desperately move to escape an ambush of over 100 lawmen and townspeople in Northfield, Minnesota; Frank and Jesse James (STACY and JAMES KEACH) stick-up a train; The Younger Brothers (ROBERT, DAVID and KEITH CARRADINE); Belle Starr (PAMELA REED), one of the most celebrated madams of the 1870s.

ABOVE—The wives of Jim Younger and Jesse and Frank James order Pinkerton agents off their property. The support of relatives and neighbors helped the outlaws to avoid capture. Left to right: Beth Younger (AMY STRYKER), Zee James, (SAVANNAH SMITH) and Annie James (SHELBY LEVERINGTON). BELOW— The gang makes a withdrawal at a local bank.



and Younger brothers, and told that, "He may be blood, but he had no reason to kill the man."

When the heat finally becomes too great for the brothers to continue, they split up and go their own ways, some to other parts of the country and some with their families. But the surviving is hard to do and after a year has gone by Jesse sends word to the rest that the time has come to go back to work.

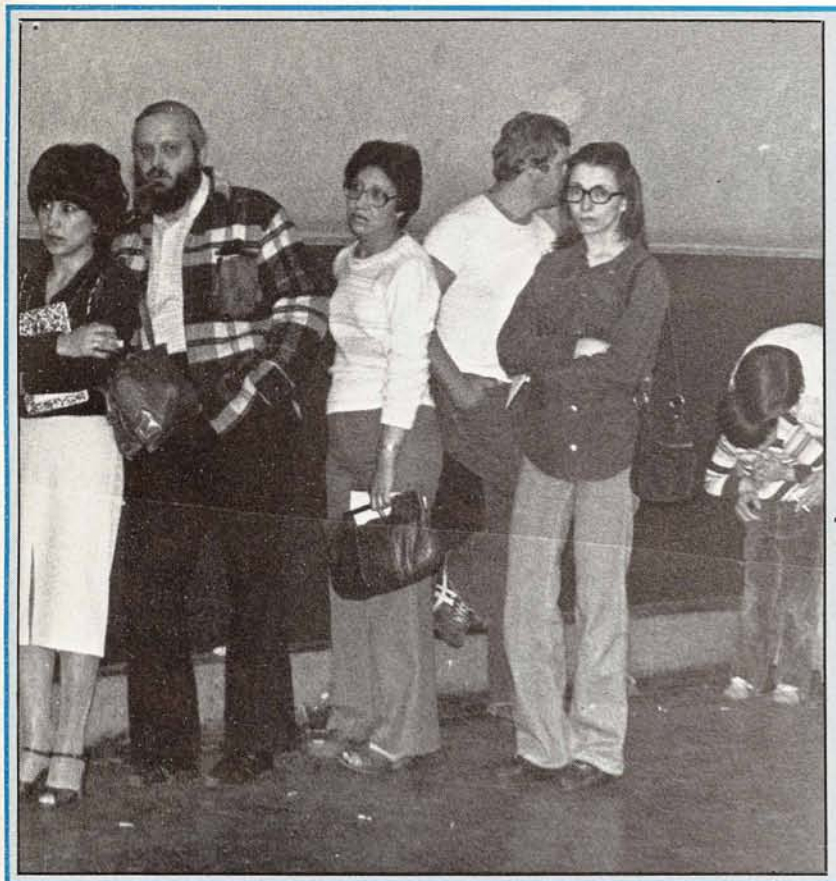
Based on information from Clell Miller they decide to rob a bank in Northfield, Minnesota. With some disagreement amongst them as to whether they should go so far from their home, the brothers set out for Minnesota.

But things are too different in this part of the country. The bank vault is new and fancy and can't be opened by the tellers, the people look and act different than in Missouri and most important, the people think different.

No longer do the brothers enjoy the support of the townsfolk. In this town, the people support the bank. Unable to open the vault, the brothers try to get out of town. But the town knew they were coming and a hundred guns open up on them, literally tearing them to pieces.

The Younger brothers are caught but Jesse and Frank managed to escape back to Missouri, where a money-hungry member of the town finally sells out to the law and kills Jesse. With no family left, Frank James turns himself into the law.

If you go to southern Missouri some people will still tell you that Jesse James never did die at the hands of the law, but someone else was buried in his place. They will tell you that the James and Younger brothers were a part of them and their history, and that they were a part to be proud of. □



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Thank you, Community Artists.

KEEP STRONG,
Bill Allen, Vice-President
Treasure Island

About The Back Cover

Camille Nash (Kim) was born in Chicago on Grand Avenue and was raised in Missouri. For the last 9 years she has lived in the Uptown community in Chicago."As a young adult in St. Louis I saw my neighborhood, the Gaslight Square are crumble beneath my feet. It was this experience that led to my involvement in the urban resistance."

Community Art Series

Untitled

Photography by Kim Nash, 1980